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ELECTION 2022 GUBERNATORIAL RACE

Stefanowski seeks rematch



Republican Bob Stefanowski is running for governor. **AP FILE**

Strident conservative throws hat into the ring for second time by blasting Lamont, Democrats

By Don Stacom
Hartford Courant

Outspoken conservative Republican Bob Stefanowski jumped into the race for governor Wednesday morning, looking for a get-tough-on-crime and cut-taxes agenda to

lead a successful rematch against Democratic Gov. Ned Lamont. Stefanowski's morning announcement blasted Lamont and the Democratic-controlled General Assembly, hitting a theme with wide appeal — the high cost of living in Connecticut — but with-

out specific solutions.

"Over the past three years, our state has become less affordable and more dangerous," he said. "We already have some of the highest taxes, utilities, and child care costs in the country, and runaway inflation is making it even worse."

Stefanowski's announcement on the Chaz & AJ morning radio show on WPLR drew immediate attacks from Connecticut Demo-

cratic leaders, who repeated their accusation that he's far too right wing for a blue state.

"CT knows that Bob Stefanowski a die-hard Trump supporter who has proposed slashing money for schools and rolling back health care," @CT Dems said on Twitter minutes after his announcement. "He stands with the conspiracy

Turn to Rematch, Page 3

Following fatal overdose, Hartford addresses student mental health and drug use with Narcan in schools, resources for students and community



Students at Sport and Medical Sciences Academy returned to school on Wednesday. The Hartford school has been closed since last week after a student died from a fentanyl overdose. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

'WE HAVE TO BE PROACTIVE'

By Seamus McAvoy
Hartford Courant

All Hartford Public Schools will soon have access to Narcan, and school nurses will receive training on how to administer the medication, city officials announced Wednesday.

The move is one of several measures outlined in a substantial and quick response by the city, in partnership with local education leaders, aimed at student wellness and drug prevention following the recent fatal overdose of a 13-year-old Hartford student.

"The loss of a young boy to an overdose has been

painful for our whole community," Mayor Luke Bronin said in a statement.

"Following this tragic incident, we want to ensure that staff at schools and community youth organizations have access to additional substance abuse awareness, mental health and other professional training services to help them promote student wellbeing," Bronin said.

The student, a seventh-grader at the Sport and Medical Science Academy in Hartford, ingested what police said was fentanyl at school Thursday morning and later died.

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HOTLINES AVAILABLE: The "See Something, Say Something" Anonymous Call-in Line for Students is designed to encourage young people to report safety concerns if they believe someone they know may hurt themselves or others. The line is available 24/7 at 844-572-9669 or 844-5-SAYNOW. Mobile Psychiatric Crisis Services are also available. To reach a crisis clinician, dial 211, press 1 and press 1 again.

Hartford HealthCare, Quinnipiac team up

\$5M partnership aims to develop health workforce

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

NORTH HAVEN — Hartford HealthCare and Quinnipiac University announced Wednesday a \$5 million, five-year partnership to bolster the health care workforce battered by COVID-19 and attract more workers to keep up with demand.

The hospital system and university — two institutions known for ambitious expansion plans — will develop programs and educational and workforce opportunities in the schools of medicine, nursing and health sciences.

"We have to figure out more ways to retain the students who are in Connecticut today so that when they graduate they stay in Connecticut," Jeffrey Flaks, chief executive officer of Hartford HealthCare, said at a news conference at Quinnipiac's North Haven campus.

"And we have to figure out ways to train those students and to the extent we're able to do that, we're going to have to build a bigger, broader, more well-trained, well-credentialed, more ready workforce," Flaks said.

Quinnipiac University President Judy Olian said demand has increased significantly for on-campus health care services "even before the pandemic, and COVID has only accelerated those needs." Interest is soaring for medical education, with 9,200 applications this year for 95 slots at the School of Medicine, she said.

Hartford HealthCare will contribute \$5 million over five years to the initiative, though the two parties said they have

Turn to Health, Page 3

BIDEN'S FIRST YEAR

For defiant president, months of challenges yield 'a job not yet finished'

By Zeke Miller and Josh Boak
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden acknowledged Wednesday that the pandemic has left Americans exhausted and

demoralized but insisted at a news conference marking his first year in office that he has "outperformed" expectations in dealing with it.

He said he would likely have to settle for "big chunks" of his signature economic package to break an impasse in Congress and further

attack inflation and the pandemic.

Biden said he believes important parts of his agenda will be passed before the 2022 midterm elections and voters will back Democrats if they are fully informed — an assignment he said he will pursue by traveling the country.

The president began the news conference by reeling off early progress in fighting the virus and quick passage of an ambitious bipartisan roads-and-bridges infrastructure deal. But his economic, voting rights, police reform and immigration agendas

have all been thwarted in a barely Democratic-controlled Senate, while inflation has emerged as an economic threat to the nation and a political risk for Biden.

Despite his faltering approval

Turn to Biden, Page 2

Access Health CT launches broker training program

Connecticut's health insurance exchange is aiming to diversify the ranks of health insurance brokers and reduce the number of uninsured residents in the state. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1**

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THROWBACK GAME

 **VS** 

TUE, JAN 25
8:30 PM
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FROM PAGE ONE

Biden

from Page 1

numbers, Biden claimed to have “probably outperformed what anybody thought would happen” in a country still coping with the coronavirus.

“After almost two years of physical, emotional and psychological impact of this pandemic, for many of us, it’s been too much to bear,” Biden said.

“Some people may call what’s happening now ‘the new normal,’” he said, his voice rising. “I call it a job not yet finished. It will get better.”

Biden seemed to relish Wednesday’s encounter, extending what was expected to be an hourlong news conference to nearly two hours. At several points, he looked at his watch, smiled and kept calling on reporters.

He fielded questions about inflation, Russia’s intentions with Ukraine, nuclear talks with Iran, voting rights, political division, Vice President Kamala Harris’ place on the 2024 ticket, trade with China and the competency of government.

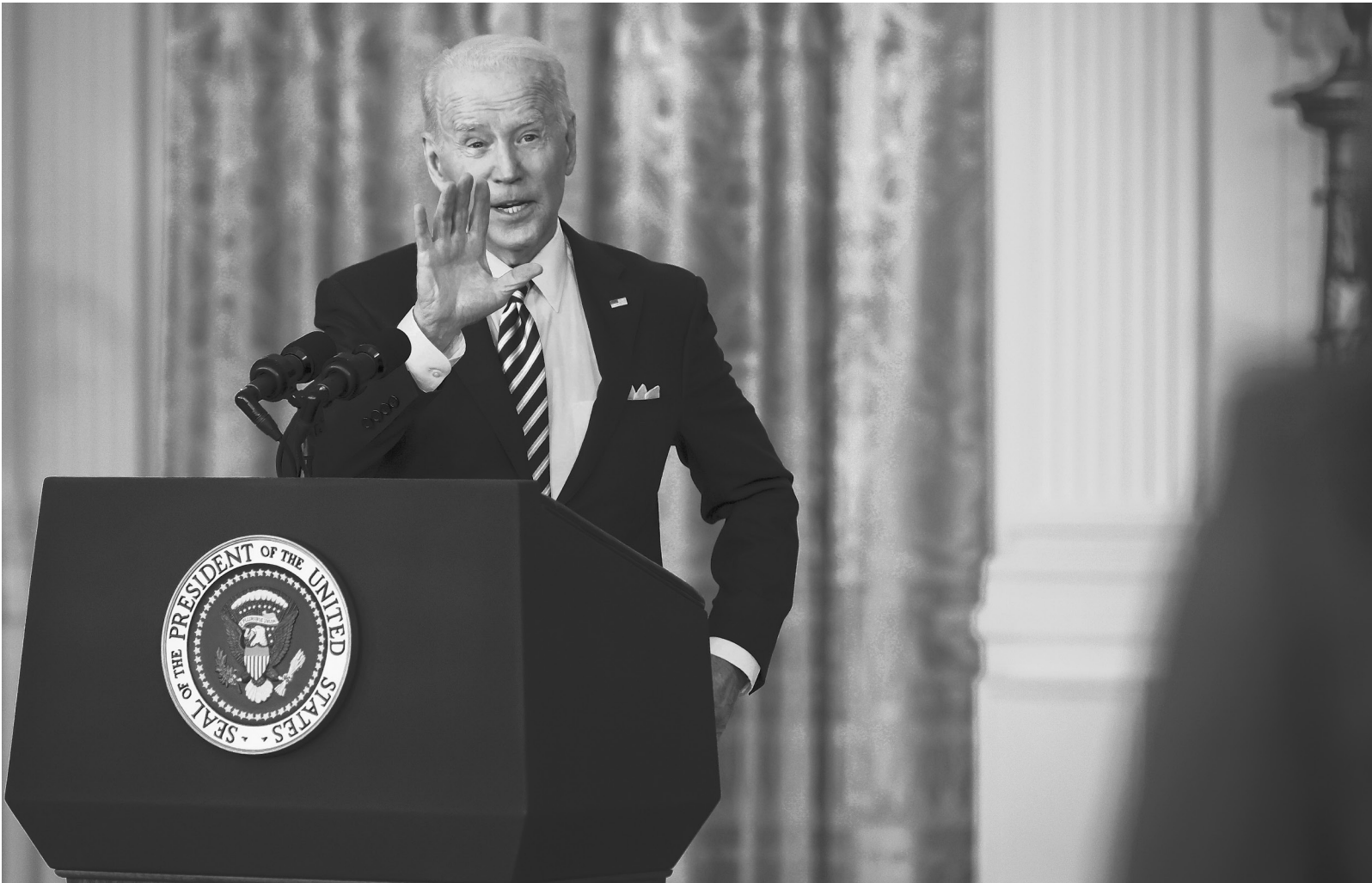
Those questions showed the multitude of challenges confronting the president, each of them as much of a risk as an opportunity to prove himself.

On his nearly \$2 trillion economic agenda that West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin has blocked from moving forward, Biden said he’ll pass the parts of the package that can net sufficient votes.

This likely means not extending expanded child tax credit or providing financial support to community colleges, Biden said.

“I think we can break the package up, get as much as we can now, come back and fight for the rest,” he said, later adding that he would apply the same strategy to his voting rights agenda.

If Biden had one set of regrets, it seemed to be his inability because of the coronavirus to connect with



President Joe Biden responds to a question during a news conference at the White House. CHIP SOMODEVILLA/GETTY

more Americans outside the capital. He noted that this challenge was most acutely felt by Black voters who wanted him to push more aggressively on expanding access to voting.

His one major strategic change, he said, will be to tour the country much more frequently.

Biden said he still hoped that voting rights legislation would pass in some form and wasn’t prepared yet to discuss possible executive action on the issue. Still, he understood that civil rights groups were anxious and frustrated about the lack of action, particularly Black voters who question why he didn’t press the issue harder, and for longer.

There are at least 19 GOP-backed laws in states that make it harder to vote, and Jan. 6 insurrection supporters are filling local

election posts and running for office. Biden said part of the problem is because he hasn’t been out speaking enough to the people.

“I don’t get a chance to look people in the eye because of both COVID and things that are happening in Washington,” he said.

The president also acknowledged that he underestimated how strong the GOP resistance against him would be, as his bipartisan infrastructure deal increasingly appears to be the main exception to a fierce and unyielding partisan divisiveness in politics.

“I did not anticipate that there would be such a stalwart effort to make sure that the most important thing was that President Biden didn’t get anything done,” he said.

This is a perilous time for Biden: The nation is gripped

by another disruptive surge of virus cases, and inflation is at a level not seen in a generation. Democrats are bracing for a potential midterm rout if he can’t turn things around.

Biden has held just six solo news conferences during his first year in office. The ongoing threat from the coronavirus was evident in the very setup of Wednesday’s gathering: A limited number of reporters were allowed to attend, and all had to have been tested for the virus and wear masks.

The enduring impact of COVID-19 has become a weight on Biden’s presidency, despite his best efforts to rally the country in common purpose to defeat the virus. As a candidate, he promised to restore normalcy to a pandemic-riven nation, but overcrowded hospitals,

shortages at grocery stores and fierce divisions over vaccine mandates and face mask requirements abound.

The president is also now staring down an inflation rate that has gone from 1.7% at his inauguration to 7%, a nearly 40-year high that has contributed to many Americans becoming pessimistic about the overall economy. He called on the Federal Reserve to lessen its monetary boosting of the economy by raising interest rates, which would in theory help to reduce inflation.

“Given the strength of our economy, and the pace of recent price increases, it’s important to recalibrate the support that is now necessary,” Biden said. “Now, we need to get inflation under control.”

Biden also addressed the brewing crisis on the Ukraine border, where

Russia has massed some 100,000 troops and raised concerns that Moscow is ready to launch a further invasion.

The president said he believes Russian President Vladimir Putin doesn’t want a full-blown war and would pay a “dear price” if he moves forward with a military incursion.

Biden did suggest a “minor incursion” might elicit a lesser response than a full-scale invasion of the country, saying “it’s very important that we keep everyone in NATO on the same page.”

“He has to do something,” Biden said of Putin. “He is trying to find his place in the world between China and the West.”

Biden said he’s convinced the country is still with him. “I don’t believe the polls,” he said.

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Wednesday, Jan. 19

PLAY3 DAY 8 4 7 WB: 9
PLAY4 DAY 3 9 0 2 WB: 9

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

TUESDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 NIGHT 5 4 5 WB: 4
PLAY4 NIGHT 0 5 4 1 WB: 0
CASH 5 8 10 16 17 35
LUCKY FOR LIFE 4 31 36 37 43 LB: 16
LOTTO 17 18 24 27 32 34
MEGA MILLIONS 4 19 39 42 52 MB: 9 MP: 4




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Directed by Oliver Butler
Starring Cassie Beck
Photo: Joan Marcus

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Health

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yet to develop details. Gov. Ned Lamont’s Workforce Council has said that demand for health care jobs in Connecticut exceeds 7,000 workers a year with compara-

ble skills gaps in other industries. The Association of American Medical Colleges projects a shortage in the U.S. of between 37,800 and 124,000 physicians by 2034. Flaks said Quinnipiac students will be eligible for immediate employment at Hartford HealthCare and

the hospital system will bring faculty members from its Center for Education, Simulation and Innovation in Hartford to Quinnipiac and help the university build a center for innovation. Hartford HealthCare also will provide health and wellness services to Quinnipiac’s

more than 9,000 students, including athletic training for the university’s 470 Division I athletes. The partnership gives Quinnipiac University and Hartford HealthCare, which has acquired hospitals in Bridgeport, New Britain, Norwich and Torrington. Quinnipiac’s student enrollment increased from

opportunity to increase their presence in education and health care. The partnership opens another avenue for Hartford HealthCare, which has acquired hospitals in Bridgeport, New Britain, Norwich and Torrington. Quinnipiac’s student enrollment increased from

2,200 between 1987 and 2020 and grew from one campus with 120 acres to three campuses on 700 acres. Faculty expanded to 408 from 130. Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

Drugs

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A search of the school revealed nearly 40 small bags of fentanyl, in powder form and packaged for street-level sales, stashed in multiple locations, Hartford police said.

The student’s death has shaken the school and greater Hartford communities, and the search left leaders baffled on how such large quantities of a potent drug could get into the hands of a young student and within school walls.

Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez, superintendent of Hartford Public Schools, called on the community to “keep the family, friends, and the entire school community at SMSA in their thoughts and prayers.”

“We are emotionally devastated by this painful loss,” Torres-Rodriguez said in a statement. The school reopened Wednesday for the first time following the student’s overdose with the help of extra support staff and counselors on site.

Narcan in schools

The training sessions for Narcan, the brand name used for overdose-reversing drug naloxone, will begin this week. Training will be conducted by the district’s Health Services Department.

At a press conference outside the state Capitol on Tuesday, Bronin stressed that Narcan availability should not be viewed as the panacea to all drug-related safety concerns for school-aged children, and called for more resources for prevention efforts.

Emergency responders, like fire and police, already carry Narcan with them, and students spend much of their time outside of school, he said.

Opioid overdoses can also be difficult to rapidly detect without adequate training, Bronin said.

Harm reduction advocates agree that Bronin’s points are well-made. Still,



Sport and Medical Sciences Academy students return to school Wednesday in Hartford. Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez, superintendent of Hartford Public Schools, called on the community to “keep the family, friends, and the entire school community at SMSA in their thoughts and prayers.” MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Mark Jenkins, executive director of the Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance believes “we have to get to a point where Narcan and naloxone is saturated in our communities.”

“If we don’t reduce stigma and increase access [to Narcan], we will continue to see more fatalities,” Jenkins told the Courant last week. “One has to be prepared. We have to be proactive.”

And while powerful, naloxone has no effect on people who do not have opioids in their system, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The drug is approved by the Food and Drug Administration and deemed extremely safe by medical experts.

Hartford Public Schools did not previously require its nurses to keep Narcan in stock, or to receive training on how to administer it.

Connecticut does not require naloxone to be available in schools, though some other states do. Gov. Ned Lamont suggested he was open to the idea at a press conference Tuesday.

“We know we made Narcan more widely available than ever before. I know that all our first responders have access to Narcan. I know they’re trained in Narcan,” Lamont said. “But if the public health people tell me Narcan at the nurse’s office at the school can save lives, that’s something we’re going to do.”

Trainings and support

The district is also initiating multiple programs and training series with a focus on mental health and wellness for students, and drug education and awareness for the general public.

Hartford Public Schools is partnering with Sandy-Hook Promise to run SaySomething training for all middle and high school students between Jan. 24-26. The training aims at educating young people on how to recognize the warning signs of dangerous behavior among their peers, and how to safely report it

“If the public health people tell me Narcan at the nurse’s office at the school can save lives, that’s something we’re going to do.”

Gov. Ned Lamont

with a trusted adult. Officials said the city and the school district will “work together to expand mental health and wellness supports” for students, school staff and the wider community. “I want to thank our partners in the City of Hartford, state officials, and our local health and law enforcement partners for their support,” Torres-Rodriguez said. “We are working hand in hand with them, our staff, and administrators to ensure the well-being of our students and to safely return them to school,” she

said. “With care and in partnership, we will continue to support students, staff, and our families throughout this challenging time.” On Monday, the district launched an educational partnership with Hartford Healthcare, Connecticut Children’s and Hartford police to provide opportunities for school staff and local leaders to learn more about opioids, prevention and best practices to support children. The district’s community-based organizations and faith-based partners will meet with these leaders in a virtual meeting Wednesday, officials said in a statement. Training for city residents and community members will be available through the city’s Department of Children, Families, Youth and Recreation. The city is also planning another round of workshops for people who work with youth, similar to the series conducted by the department last September. Topics will include “youth mental health, substance abuse, trauma support,

youth mentoring, COVID prevention and other health and wellness topics,” officials said.

“The City Council is dedicated to ensuring that students, families, and schools have the resources they need to keep our kids protected, because no one should have to worry about their child’s safety at our schools,” Maly D. Rosado, council president, said in a statement.

Current laws and resources

City leaders also urged people to become familiar with the state laws and resources already in place.

The state in 2011 passed the Good Samaritan Law, which protects people who call 911 for a drug overdose from being arrested for possession of drugs or drug paraphernalia (they can still be arrested for other reasons, though, such as outstanding warrants).

Lamont signed multi-faceted Public Act No. 19-191, or “An Act Addressing Opioid Use,” into law in 2019. The law prohibits insurance companies from denying life insurance to people who have prescriptions for naloxone, requires colleges to publicize naloxone policies and bolsters efforts to collect overdose data.

And medical professionals who prescribe naloxone, as well as any person who administers it, are protected from civil and criminal prosecution under Public Acts 12-159 and 14-61.

The “See Something, Say Something” Anonymous Call-in Line for Students is designed to encourage young people to report safety concerns if they believe someone they know may hurt themselves or others. The line is available 24/7 at 844-572-9669 or 844-5-SAYNOW.

Mobile Psychiatric Crisis Services are also available. To reach a crisis clinician, dial 211, press 1 and press 1 again.

Seamus McAvoy my be reached at smcavoy@courant.com

Rematch

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theory-promoting, insurrectionist fringe.”

Connecticut Republicans now appear to face at least a four-way choice for who will challenge Lamont in the November election, with Stefanowski and former state House Minority Leader Themis Klarides as the frontrunners.

Klarides has not formally announced, but financial statements show she’s spent about \$400,000 on consultants and other campaign costs so far. State Elections Enforcement Commission documents show Timothy Elgin of Westport and Susan Patricelli Regan of Granby have also started campaigns for the GOP endorsement, while Ernestine Holloway seeks to run on the Independent Party ticket.

In recent gubernatorial campaigns, the state GOP has gotten behind conservatives who went down to defeat in the general elec-

tions. Some GOP leaders have been looking to Klarides as a somewhat more moderate candidate appealing to a broader base.

But Stefanowski has deep support in the GOP’s right wing, which is banking on traditional conservatives messages winning out amid a time of public dissatisfaction — particularly with government over COVID-19 restrictions.

On Wednesday, there was no sign that Republican mayors in the state were lining up in either direction. New Britain Mayor Erin Stewart, who earlier ruled out a run for governor this year, made no comment Wednesday. But she previously has warned that the party needs younger, more socially progressive candidates in statewide races, with less emphasis on wedge issues and Culture War postures.

Stefanowski, 59, won the GOP endorsement in 2018 by defeating a series of more moderate candidates, but lost to Lamont in the general election. Even

though he won well more than half of Connecticut’s towns, Stefanowski lost massively in New Haven, Hartford and other major cities that largely dominate statewide races.

Lamont took about 694,000 votes to Stefanowski’s approximately 650,000. This time, though, Lamont has the advantage of being an incumbent. Also, a third candidate in 2018 — the late Oz Griebel, a moderate Hartford business leader — took about 50,000 votes.

Stefanowski, a former General Electric executive who also directed a payday lending company, bypassed the GOP convention in 2018 and easily won a five-way primary. Critics said he focused too much on eliminating the state income tax, providing few specifics on other issues. He won the endorsement of then-President Donald Trump, boosting his stock among conservatives while drawing derision from Lamont, who dubbed him “Trumpanowski.”

Since the election,

Stefanowski has hammered away on Twitter at Democratic policies, and wrote an op-ed in The Wall Street Journal last winter tearing into the Democratic leadership of Hartford.

“Once famous as the ‘insurance capital of the world,’ Hartford has been in decline for 30 years,” Stefanowski wrote. “Hartford’s poverty rate is one of the highest in the nation. The city is falling apart.”

Democrats dismissed it as untruthful, malicious partisan propaganda, but the message won plenty of social media support from conservatives saying Hartford had suffered from years of liberal policies and high taxes.

Stefanowski on Wednesday indicated he’ll be attacking Lamont on several fronts.

“It’s affordability. It’s about utility bills. It’s about the cost of gas. It’s about spiking in crime. It’s about government accountability, and having some visibility to how they spend our money in Hartford and

having some accountability around it,” Stefanowski said. “We’re going to have a much broader platform, and we’re going to address more issues that people are worried about.”

His campaign website, bobforgovernor.com, hits hard on the theme of voter fatigue.

“The people of Connecticut are tired. They are weary from waiting in line for hours and hours during the holidays just to get a simple COVID test,” it says. “They are weary from paying higher and higher prices on everything from gassing up their cars to paying monthly utility bills. And they are weary from all-too-common acts of violence committed in neighborhoods across the state.”

At a press conference Wednesday afternoon, Lamont told reporters he wouldn’t get into a back-and-forth with potential challengers at this point.

“I can respond to every single hit that comes from the political world, but I’m

trying like heck to focus on the job at hand, and right now it’s getting us through what I hope is the ninth inning of this pandemic, keeping our economy moving, keeping our kids in school and getting this economy growing for everyone,” Lamont said. “That’s what I’m going to focus on.”

But when asked about Stefanowski’s complaint that he should have called a special legislative session to toughen juvenile crime laws, Lamont defended his record.

“What we have done is we’ve really focused like a laser beam on those who are the most repeat offenders. We’ve made sure that judges have access to that information, so if somebody is arrested we know if it’s a first-time offense or a multi-year offense,” he said, adding “we have more cops in training, more state police on the beat than we’ve had before.”

Courant staff writer Eliza Fawcett contributed to this report.



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-Julie Paladino, Founder of Integrated Rehabilitation Services



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Senate GOP blocks voting rights bill

Biden, Democrats suffer setback after day of high emotions

By Lisa Mascaro
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Voting legislation that Democrats and civil rights groups argued is vital for protecting democracy was blocked Wednesday night by a Republican filibuster, a setback for President Joe Biden and his party after a raw, emotional debate.

Democrats were poised to pivot to voting later on a Senate rules change as a way to overcome the filibuster and approve the bill with a simple majority.

But the rules change was also headed toward defeat, as Biden has been unable to persuade two holdout senators in his own party, Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona and Joe Manchin of West Virginia, to change the Senate procedures for this one bill.

“This is not just another routine day in the Senate, this is a moral moment,” Sen. Raphael Warnock, D-Ga., said.

The initial vote was 51-49, short of the 60 votes needed to advance over the filibuster.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., voted no for procedural reasons so Democrats can revisit the legislation.

The voting capped a day of piercing debate that carried echoes of an earlier era when the Senate filibuster was deployed in lengthy speeches by opponents of civil rights legislation.

Voting rights advocates are warning that Republican-led states nationwide



Reps. Hakeem Jeffries, left, Terri Sewell and Joyce Beatty, standing with other members of the Congressional Black Caucus, speak in front of the Senate chamber Wednesday about their support of a voting rights bill. AMANDA ANDRADE-RHOADES/AP

are passing laws making it more difficult for Black Americans and others to vote by consolidating polling locations, requiring certain types of identification and ordering other changes.

Vice President Kamala Harris presided, able to cast a potentially tie-breaking vote in the 50-50 Senate.

Democrats decided to press ahead despite the potential for high-stakes defeat at a tumultuous time for Biden and his party.

Biden is marking his first year in office with his priorities stalling out in the face of solid Republican opposition and the Democrats’ inability to unite around their own

goals. But the Democrats wanted to force senators on the record — even their own party’s holdouts — to show voters where they stand.

“I haven’t given up,” Biden said earlier at a White House news conference.

Sinema and Manchin have withstood an onslaught of criticism from Black leaders and civil rights organizations, and they risk further political fallout as other groups and even their own colleagues threaten to yank campaign support.

Schumer contended the fight is not over and he ridiculed Republican claims that the new election laws in the states will not end

up hurting voter access and turnout, comparing it to Donald Trump’s “big lie” about the 2020 presidential election.

The Democrats’ bill, the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act, would make Election Day a national holiday, ensure access to early voting and mail-in ballots — which have become especially popular during the COVID-19 pandemic — and enable the Justice Department to intervene in states with a history of voter interference, among other changes.

It has passed the House.

Both Manchin and Sinema say they support the

legislation but are unwilling to change Senate rules. With a 50-50 split, Democrats have a narrow Senate majority — Harris can break a tie — but they lack the 60 votes needed to overcome the GOP filibuster.

Instead, Schumer put forward a more specific rules change for a “talking filibuster” on this one bill.

It would require senators to stand at their desks and exhaust the debate before holding a simple majority vote, rather than the current practice that simply allows senators to privately signal their objections.

But even that is expected to fail because Manchin

and Sinema have said they are unwilling to change the rules on a party-line vote by Democrats alone.

Emotions were on display during the floor debate.

When Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., asked Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky whether he would pause for a question, McConnell left the chamber, refusing to respond.

Durbin said he would have asked McConnell, “Does he really believe that there’s no evidence of voter suppression?”

The No. 2 Republican, Sen. John Thune of South Dakota, said at one point, “I am not a racist.”

McConnell, who led his party in doing away with the filibuster’s 60-vote threshold for Supreme Court nominees during Donald Trump’s presidency, warned against changing the rules again.

McConnell derided the “fake hysteria” from Democrats over the states’ new voting laws and called the pending bill a federal takeover of election systems.

McConnell said doing away with filibuster rules would “break the Senate.”

Manchin drew a roomful of senators for his own speech, upstaging the president’s news conference and defending the filibuster. He said majority rule would only “add fuel to the fire” and it was “dysfunction that is tearing this nation apart.”

Several members of the Congressional Black Caucus walked across the Capitol building for the proceedings. “We want this Senate to act today in a favorable way. But if it don’t, we ain’t giving up,” said Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., the highest-ranking Black member of Congress.

NY AG outlines possible fraud at Trump business

Court papers say company misled banks, tax officials

By Jonah E. Bromwich, Ben Protess and William K. Rashbaum
The New York Times

NEW YORK — The New York state attorney general, Letitia James, accused Donald Trump’s family business of repeatedly misrepresenting the value of its assets to bolster its bottom line, saying in court papers that the company had engaged in “fraudulent or misleading” practices.

The filing late Tuesday came in response to Trump’s recent effort to block James from questioning him and two of his adult children under oath as part of a civil investigation of his business, the Trump Organization. James’ inquiry into Trump and the company is ongoing.

The filing marked the first time the attorney general’s office leveled specific accusations against the former president’s company. Trump seeks to shut down her investigation, which he has called a partisan witch hunt. James is a Democrat.

The filing outlined what James’ office termed misleading statements about

the value of six Trump properties, as well as the “Trump brand.” The properties included golf clubs in New York and Scotland, flagship buildings such as 40 Wall Street in Manhattan and Trump’s penthouse home in Trump Tower.

James’ filing argued that the company misstated the value of the properties to lenders, insurers and the IRS. Many of the statements, the filing argued, were “generally inflated as part of a pattern to suggest that Trump’s net worth was higher than it otherwise would have appeared.”

James highlighted details of how she said the company inflated the valuations: \$150,000 initiation fees into Trump’s golf club in suburban Westchester that it never collected; mansions that had not yet been built on one of his private estates; and 20,000 square feet in his Trump Tower triplex apartment that did not exist.

“We have uncovered significant evidence that suggests Donald J. Trump and the Trump Organization falsely and fraudulently valued multiple assets and misrepresented those values to financial institutions for economic benefit,” James said in a statement.

It is unusual for such

specific and serious allegations to emerge in court papers — filed just ahead of a midnight deadline to respond to Trump’s effort to avoid being questioned — instead of in a formal complaint. James’ lawyers said the release of the details would not hamper their investigation, and added that the office was also looking into other conduct not discussed in the filing.

A spokeswoman for the Trump Organization called the allegations baseless.

Because James’ investigation is civil, she can sue Trump and his company but cannot file criminal charges. Her inquiry is running parallel to a criminal investigation led by the Manhattan district attorney, Alvin Bragg, which is examining some of the same conduct. James’ office is participating in that separate investigation, which is continuing. Bragg is also a Democrat.

In December, James issued a subpoena for Trump as well as for Donald Trump Jr. and Ivanka Trump, seeking to question them. James questioned another of Trump’s sons, Eric Trump, in October 2020.

He invoked his Fifth Amendment right against incriminating himself in response to more than 500



Then-President-elect Donald Trump talks to his daughter Ivanka at Trump Tower. Some of Trump’s other children, Eric, left, and Donald Jr., are also seen. TIMOTHY CLARY/GETTY-APF 2017

questions, the new court filing said.

After receiving the subpoenas, lawyers for Trump filed a federal lawsuit seeking to halt James’ civil investigation and to bar her office from participating in the district attorney’s criminal investigation.

The lawsuit, which accused James of violating Trump’s constitutional rights, argued that her investigation was politically motivated and cited a long list of her public attacks on Trump.

This month, Trump’s lawyers also filed court

papers in New York state seeking to block James’ subpoenas.

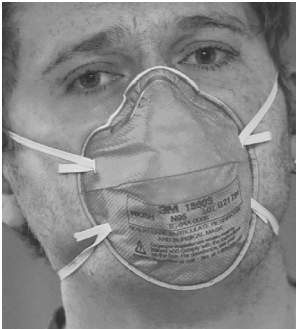
James, who is running for reelection this year, argued in the court papers that while her office had compiled evidence that Trump’s company had engaged in possible fraud, investigators needed to question Trump in order to determine who was responsible for “the numerous misstatements and omissions made by him or on his behalf” — and whether they were intentional.

Alan Futerfas, a lawyer

for Donald Trump Jr. and Ivanka Trump, said in a statement that James’ court papers didn’t address the central arguments the family raised in their effort to block the questioning.

“In 160 pages of legal briefing, the Attorney General’s Office deliberately fails to address Ms. James’ repeated threats to target the Trump family and her assertions about her criminal investigation — all which are the essence of our motion to quash the subpoenas or stay them,” the statement said.

US begins distribution of free, at-home coronavirus tests and N95 masks



Registered nurse Scott McGieson wears an N95 mask last Friday in Seattle. ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

WASHINGTON — For the first time, people across the U.S. can log on to a government website and order free, at-home COVID-19 tests. But the White House push may do little to ease the omicron surge, and experts say Washington will have to do a lot more to fix the country’s long-troubled testing system.

The website, COVID-

Tests.gov, allows people to order four at-home tests per household, regardless of citizenship status, and have them delivered by mail.

However, the tests won’t arrive for seven to 12 days, after omicron cases are expected to peak in many parts of the country.

The White House also announced Wednesday that it will begin making 400 million N95 masks available for free at pharmacies and community health centers. Both initiatives represent

the kind of mass government investments long seen in parts of Europe and Asia, but delayed in the U.S.

Experts say the plan to distribute 1 billion tests is a good first step, but it must become a regular part of the pandemic response. In the same way that it has made vaccines free and plentiful, the government must use its purchasing power to assure a steady test supply, they say.

“The playbook for rapid tests should look exactly like the playbook for vaccines,”

said Zoe McLaren, a health economist at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. “They’re both things that help keep cases down and help keep COVID under control.”

A home test two-pack commonly sells for more than \$20 — if you can find one, amid the omicron-triggered rush to get tested. Since last week, insurance companies have been required to cover the cost of up to eight at-home rapid tests bought at drugstores or

online retailers.

The U.S. bungled its rollout of government-made COVID-19 tests in the early days of the outbreak and has never really gotten back on track. While private companies are producing over 250 million at-home tests monthly, that isn’t enough to allow most Americans to frequently test themselves.

Countries like Britain and Germany purchased and distributed billions of the tests after they became available in 2021.

WORLD & NATION

S. American hospitals in virus crisis

Omicron infections also taking a toll on health care staffers

By Debora Alvares and Almudena Calatrava
Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil — The omicron variant starting to barrel across South America is pressuring hospitals whose employees are taking sick leave, leaving facilities understaffed to cope with COVID-19's third wave. A major hospital in Bolivia's largest city stopped admitting new patients due to lack of personnel, and one of Brazil's most populous states canceled scheduled surgeries for a month. Argentina's federation of private health care providers said it estimates about 15% of its health workers have the virus.

The third wave "is affecting the health team a lot, from the cleaning staff to the technicians, with a high percentage of sick people, despite having a complete vaccination schedule," said Jorge Coronel, president of Argentina's medical confederation. "While symptoms are mostly mild to moderate, that group needs to be isolated."

It wasn't supposed to be this way: South America's vaccine uptake was eager once shots were available. About two-thirds of its 435 million residents are fully immunized, the highest percentage for any global region, according to Our World in Data. And health workers in Brazil, Bolivia and Argentina have already been receiving booster shots.

But the omicron variant is defying vaccines, sending case numbers surging. Argentina saw an average 112,000 daily confirmed cases in the week through Jan. 16, up from 3,700 a month earlier. Brazil's health ministry is still recovering from a hack that left corona-



A boy turns away before getting a shot of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine Sunday at a community health center in Brasilia, Brazil. **ERALDO PERES/AP**

virus data incomplete; even so, it shows a jump to an average 69,000 daily cases in the same seven-day period, up 1,900% from the month before.

Omicron spreads even easier than other strains, and is already dominant in many countries — among them, Brazil and some parts of Argentina. It also more easily infects those who have already been vaccinated or infected by earlier versions of the virus. Early studies show omicron is less likely to cause serious diseases than the delta variant, and vaccination and booster shots still offer strong protection against serious illness, hospitalization and death.

Lesser severity leaves South America's residents loath to give up their long-awaited summer that, so they were told, would mark

a return to normality after full vaccination. The enduring pandemic often seems an afterthought to people who are out and about, and don't glimpse how omicron has started affecting medical staff. Beaches were packed this weekend in Argentina and Brazil.

Matias Fernandez Norte, a surgeon at the Hospital de Clinicas in Buenos Aires, said that the high number of professionals on leave has generated "physical and spiritual fatigue, in addition to the stress of dealing with a patient on the edge."

"You feel like you are living a parallel reality. In the street you meet a world that doesn't seem to feel the pandemic," he said. "Sometimes it feels like people have forgotten. Unfortunately, that's what we feel."

Brazil's council of state

health secretariats estimates that between 10% and 20% of all professionals in the health network — including doctors, nurses, nurse technicians, ambulance drivers and others in direct contact with patients — have taken sick leave since the last week of 2021.

"We are having trouble making the schedules," said the council's director, Carlos Lula.

The press office of Rio de Janeiro state's health secretariat said that about 5,500 professionals have left their jobs since December. All elective surgeries scheduled in the state health network have been suspended for four weeks. As for urgent care, relocations and overtime are being used as stop-gap measures.

"Forty percent of our staff is on sick leave," Marcia

Fernandes Lucas, health secretary for the municipality of Sao Joao de Meriti, in Rio's metropolitan region, told said. "We are able to work with these 60% by redeploying them (between health centers)."

Public hospitals in Bolivia are operating at 50-70% capacity due to the high number of infections among health care workers, according to the Bolivian doctors' union.

In Santa Cruz, the country's most populous city, the Children's Hospital is overwhelmed — but less by its number of patients than the amount of staff falling ill, according to Freddy Rojas, its vice director. Last week, the facility stopped admitting new patients.

"There has been a collapse, because we don't have replacements," said Jose Luis

Guaman, interim president of the doctors' union in Santa Cruz.

Such is the risk of medical services grinding to a halt in Argentina's Buenos Aires province — the country's most populous — that health workers have been allowed to return to work even if coming into contact with someone infected, provided they are asymptomatic and vaccinated. Other provinces in Argentina are expected to adopt the same rules in the coming days, in line with the health ministry's recently-issued guidelines.

Chile has seen a constant increase in cases, prompting the reactivation of public- and private-sector hospital beds, but so far the country hasn't experienced hospital overload. Peru has also seen case its numbers rise, but its facilities aren't yet suffering.

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WORLD & NATION

Harris strains to define herself as VP

‘Tough for any vice president to shine,’ ex-Gore staffer says

By Alexandra Jaffe
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden put the full weight of his presidency behind voting rights action last week, heading to Capitol Hill in an effort to push Democrats to change Senate rules to pass legislation.

Vice President Kamala Harris — whom Biden tapped to take the lead on passing voting rights legislation in June — wasn’t there.

Both White House press secretary Jen Psaki and Harris aides had no clear answer when asked why the vice president didn’t join Biden in the meeting.

It was yet another example of the difficulty Harris has faced throughout her first year in office, as she’s struggled to define herself and her role.

Harris has grappled with an expansive portfolio of difficult assignments, fielded questions about her relationship with the president and faced what allies say is unprecedented scrutiny for a vice president — without, some worry, adequate support from the White House.

And she’s navigated all that within the constraints of a global pandemic and a duty to act as the tie-breaking vote in an evenly divided Senate that have restricted her ability to travel beyond Washington.

“It’s tough for any vice president to shine — even in the best of times. And these aren’t the best of times,” said Roy Neel, who served as chief of staff for former Vice President Al Gore. “You not only serve at the pleasure of the president, for any public activities, but there’s a limit to how much you can do to take the lead role on the major issue of the day, whatever that is, and to go out and look like you’re killing it.”



President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris walk off stage last week in Atlanta after speaking in support of changing Senate filibuster rules that have stalled voting rights legislation. Harris has been vice president for a year. **PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP**

Harris’ aides say privately that the vice president is careful not to get ahead of the president, never wanting to take credit for the administration’s successes. She will also often say that while she offers her frank opinions to the president privately, her public role is to ensure he is successful.

But that’s left some Harris supporters, who warmed to her as an outspoken progressive voice in the Senate on issues ranging from police reform to voting rights, frustrated at what they see as her absence on key issues. During a recent interview with media personality Charlamagne Tha God, when Harris dropped her typically pleasant demeanor and sharply defended Biden, Charlamagne took note.

“That Kamala Harris? That’s the one I like,” he said. “That’s the one I’d like to see out here more often in these streets.”

Many of the issues on

Harris’ plate have no clear solution or immediate payoff. She’s been tasked with pushing broadband access, leading the Space Council, driving for passage of the voting rights bill and addressing the root causes of migration to the U.S. Southern border.

She’s also drawn criticism from the left for her work on immigration, after she told migrants directly “do not come” to the U.S. during her trip to Guatemala and Mexico last year.

Progressive Democratic Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York tweeted that Harris’ comments were “disappointing to see.”

Domingo Garcia, national president of the League of United Latin American Citizens, said he wanted to see more from the former progressive senator during that trip, calling it “a day late and a dollar short.”

“I mean she went to Central America, she took no meetings with commu-

nity groups or civic groups involved in the issue. And so it’s almost like they don’t have a sounding board, and they’re groping around in the dark for a solution,” he said.

Harris, who declined to be interviewed for this story, has dismissed questions about the difficulty of her portfolio, insisting she relishes taking on difficult assignments. But privately, a number of her allies have complained that Harris not only has some of the administration’s most thankless tasks, but that she hasn’t been given enough support or resources from the White House to deliver on them.

And the grind of the office has taken its toll.

Harris has drawn negative headlines in recent weeks for an exodus of top aides, including her former communications director and former chief spokesperson, with anonymous aides complaining of a difficult work environment from an

overly tough boss.

Still, some of Harris’ biggest constraints are largely out of her control: The pandemic and the demands on her time as a tie-breaking vote in the Senate. Harris hasn’t been able to do as many public, in-person events as she and her aides would like due to the pandemic, and she’s done only a fraction of the international travel typical of a vice president, which has reduced her diplomatic engagements largely to virtual meetings or phone calls.

She’s also tethered to Washington because of the unpredictability of the Senate schedule. Harris has cast 15 tie-breaking votes so far, the most of any modern vice president, and must stay in Washington most weeks in case a nomination comes up for a vote.

“It really isn’t a source of power or influence, because really, all she’s doing is voting the administration line,” said vice presidential historian

Joel Goldstein. “It’s really a constraint because it restricts her ability to do other things.”

Early in the year, it seemed like Harris was a bigger target for Republicans than Biden. Now that’s less so. A Gallup poll in December showed 44% of Americans saying they approve of how Harris is handling her job as vice president; 54% disapprove. That was similar to Biden’s rating in the survey.

Harris’ aides say that she has played an active role in some of the president’s toughest policy choices, including his decision to withdraw from Afghanistan.

They also argue some of her diplomatic work hasn’t gotten the credit it deserves, pointing to early investments she secured from companies in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador as part of her work there, as well as a gaffe-free trip to France aimed at smoothing over relations with the nation earlier this year.

They tout the ways in which her perspective as the first woman of color in the role has helped elevate issues they say wouldn’t typically draw the attention of the White House, like maternal mortality.

But allies say her historic position has also brought her outsize scrutiny, and at times distorted the coverage of her accomplishments.

“There has been an unprecedented level of interest in her and excitement about her as a historic first. She’s the first vice president to have such a large press corps,” said Democratic strategist Karen Finney, a Harris ally.

Finney, who is Black, said there is a level of “sexism and racism” to coverage of Harris, pointing in particular to stories focused on times Harris has laughed when asked questions in interviews.

“The coverage focuses on style over substance,” she said.



Prime Minister Boris Johnson is losing support from within his own Conservative Party ranks after he repeatedly flouted coronavirus lockdown rules. **JESSICA TAYLOR/UK PARLIAMENT**

UK’s Johnson resisting calls to resign as ouster bid grows

By Jill Lawless
Associated Press

LONDON — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson defied calls to resign in a feisty performance Wednesday in Parliament — but it may be too little to prevent a push by his Conservative Party’s lawmakers to oust him over a series of lockdown-flouting government parties.

Pressure grew as one Conservative lawmaker defected to the opposition Labor Party and a former Conservative cabinet minister told Johnson: “In the name of God, go!”

The demand from former Brexit Secretary David Davis came during a combative Prime Minister’s Questions session in the House of Commons, where Johnson defended his government’s record.

The allegations that Johnson and his staff broke restrictions the government imposed on the country have helped Labor open a double-digit opinion poll lead on the Conservatives, but Johnson doesn’t have to face voters until the next general election, scheduled for 2024.

His bigger danger is from his own party, which has a history of ousting leaders once they become liabilities.

Conservatives are weighing whether to trigger a no-confidence vote in Johnson amid the public anger over the scandal dubbed “partygate” — a stunning reversal of fortune for a politician who just over two years ago led the party to its biggest election victory in almost 40 years.

Under Conservative rules, a no-confidence vote in the party’s leader can be triggered if 54 party lawmakers — 15% of the party’s House of Commons total — write letters to a party official demanding it.

If Johnson lost a confidence vote among the party’s 359 lawmakers, it would trigger a contest to replace him as Conservative leader. The winner would also become prime minister. If Johnson won the vote, he would be safe from a similar challenge for a year.

Johnson on Wednesday announced he was lifting mask mandates and most other coronavirus restrictions in England beginning next week, as he tried to change the subject and

brush aside questions about the scandal.

“We delivered while they dithered,” he said of opposition politicians.

The Labor opposition was boosted by the defection to their ranks of Conservative lawmaker Christian Wakeford, who said the prime minister was “incapable of offering the leadership and government this country deserves.”

Johnson dismissed calls to quit, and said the Conservatives would regain Wakeford’s seat in the next election. Johnson’s press secretary said the prime minister intended to lead the party in that election.

So far, only a handful of Conservative members of Parliament have openly called for Johnson to resign, though several dozen are believed to have submitted letters, including some elected as part of a Johnson-led landslide in December 2019.

Conservative lawmaker Andrew Bridgen, who is calling for a change, said he thought the 54-letter threshold would be reached “this week,” setting the stage for a confidence vote within days.

Univ. of Michigan settles sex abuse cases with \$490M deal

By Mike Householder and Larry Lage
Associated Press

The University of Michigan announced a \$490 million settlement Wednesday with more than 1,000 people who say they were sexually assaulted by a sports doctor during his nearly four-decade career at the school.

The university said mediation led to the deal specifying 1,050 people will share in the financial settlement, the latest in several large payouts made by American universities following accusations of repeated sexual abuse by employees.

Individuals and their attorneys will determine how to split \$460 million, with no input from the university, the school said in a statement. An additional \$30 million will be set aside for future claims.

Board of Regents Chair Jordan Acker said the agreement will resolve all survivor claims.

“We must support healing and restoration of trust in an environment where safety is paramount,” Acker said.

Attorney Parker Stinar said the settlement was reached Tuesday night. The university had been in mediation to resolve multiple lawsuits by mostly men who said Dr. Robert Anderson sexually abused them during routine medical examinations.

“It has been a long and challenging journey, and I believe this settlement will provide justice and healing for the many brave men and women who refused to be silenced,” said Stinar, who represents about 200 victims.

Anderson worked at the university from 1966 until his 2003 retirement and was director of the university’s Health Service and a physician for multiple athletic teams, including football.



Jon Vaughn, a former member of the University of Michigan football team in the 1980s and 1990s, speaks during a news conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan. **PAUL SANCYA/AP 2021**

A number of football players and other athletes have come forward to accuse Anderson, who died in 2008, of sexually abusing them.

A report by a firm hired by the school determined that staff missed many opportunities to stop Anderson over his career. The university regularly is ranked among the top public universities in the U.S.

The settlement has to be approved by the board which is expected to vote at its February meeting, Acker said. It also has to be approved by 98% of claimants and the court overseeing the suits.

The deal came roughly two weeks after a state senator announced new bipartisan legislation that would retroactively give the accusers a 30-day window to sue the school for damages regardless of legal time limits and bar the university from using the government immunity defense.

Early this week, two men who say they were sexually assaulted by Anderson also said they were hoping that a change in leadership with the weekend firing of university President Mark Schlissel would allow the school to be more accountable toward abuse victims.

Keith Moree and

Robert Stone told reporters Tuesday that the Ann Arbor school is ripe for a culture change as its board conducts a search to permanently replace Schlissel, who was removed Saturday due to an alleged “inappropriate relationship with a university employee.”

The settlement with Anderson’s victims is one of several agreed to by universities following sex abuse scandals. They include Michigan State University’s agreement to pay \$500 million to settle claims from more than 300 women and girls who said they were assaulted by Larry Nassar, who was a campus sports doctor and a doctor for USA Gymnastics.

That settlement, announced in May 2018, was considered the largest at the time, far surpassing the \$100 million-plus that Penn State University has paid to settle claims by at least 35 people who accused assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky of sexual abuse.

Last year, the University of Southern California agreed to an \$852 million settlement with more than 700 women who have accused the college’s long-time campus gynecologist, Dr. George Tyndall, of sexual abuse.

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFS

Biden: Putin will pay ‘dear price’ if Russian troops invade Ukraine

From news services

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden said he believes Vladimir Putin doesn’t want a full-blown war in Ukraine and would pay a “dear price” if he moves forward with a military incursion.

Biden, speaking at a news conference to mark his first year as commander in chief, also said he believes that Russia is preparing to take action on Ukraine, though he doesn’t think Vladimir Putin has made a final decision.

Biden suggested that he would limit Russia’s access to the international banking system if it did further invade Ukraine.

“I’m not so sure that he is certain what is he going to do,” Biden said.

Biden’s comments came hours after U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken during a visit to Kyiv accused Russia of planning to reinforce the more than 100,000 troops it has deployed along the Ukrainian border and suggested that number could double “on relatively short order.”

Blinken did not elaborate, but Russia has sent an unspecified number of troops from the country’s far east to its ally Belarus, which also shares a border with Ukraine, for major war games next month.

Ukraine, meanwhile, said it was prepared for the worst and would survive whatever difficulties come its way.

Ruling against Trump: In a rebuff to former President Donald Trump, the Supreme Court is allowing the release of presidential documents sought by the congressional committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection.

The justices on Wednesday rejected a bid by Trump to withhold the documents from the committee until the

issue is finally resolved by the courts. Trump’s lawyers had hoped to prolong the court fight and keep the documents on hold.

Following the high court’s action, there is no legal impediment to turning over the documents, which are held by the National Archives and Records Administration. They include presidential diaries, visitor logs, speech drafts and handwritten notes dealing with Jan. 6 from the files of former chief of staff Mark Meadows.

Alone among the justices, Clarence Thomas said he would have granted Trump’s request to keep the documents on hold.

Supreme Court mask denial: Supreme Court Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Neil Gorsuch say a media report that they were at odds over the wearing of masks in court during the recent surge in coronavirus cases is false.

The court Wednesday issued an unusual three-sentence statement from Sotomayor and Gorsuch. It read: “Reporting that Justice Sotomayor asked Justice Gorsuch to wear a mask surprised us. It is false. While we may sometimes disagree about the law, we are warm colleagues and friends.”

Sotomayor, who has diabetes, has been attending arguments remotely from her chambers this month during the surge of the omicron variant. Her colleagues, with the exception of Gorsuch, have been wearing masks this month while hearing arguments in the courtroom.

Later Wednesday, Chief Justice John Roberts responded to inquiries about whether he had asked his colleagues to wear masks, saying in statement, “I did not request Justice Gorsuch or any other Justice to wear a mask on the bench.”



A displaced Syrian woman, background, removes snow from a tent Wednesday at a refugee camp in Afrin. A storm, dubbed “Hiba” in Lebanon, began Tuesday and is expected to peak Thursday. Many impoverished Lebanese and Syrians are scrambling to find ways to survive. Some are burning old clothes, plastic and other hazardous materials to keep warm. **GHAITH ALSAYED/AP**

Gorsuch has never said why he is not wearing a mask on the bench.

Both statements from the justices came after NPR’s longtime Supreme Court correspondent Nina Totenberg reported Tuesday on an alleged conflict between Sotomayor and Gorsuch, who normally sit next to each other during arguments at the high court.

Totenberg reported that court sources said “Sotomayor did not feel safe in close proximity to people who were unmasked” and that “Chief Justice John Roberts, understanding that, in some form asked the other justices to mask up.”

Gorsuch’s decision not to wear a mask “has also meant that Sotomayor has not attended the justices’ weekly conference in person, joining instead by telephone,” Totenberg reported.

An NPR spokeswoman said in an email Wednesday after the justices released their statements that “NPR stands behind Nina Totenberg’s reporting.”

Biden nominations: President Joe Biden on Wednesday announced his intention to nominate Democratic fundraiser Jane Hartley to serve as ambassador to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and major donor Alan Leventhal to serve as his envoy to Denmark.

The White House also announced Biden would nominate longtime diplomat and attorney Elizabeth Bagley to serve as ambassador to Brazil and career senior foreign service officer Alexander Laskaris to serve in Chad.

Tonga damage: Three of Tonga’s smaller islands suffered serious damage from tsunami waves, officials and the Red Cross said Wednesday, as a wider picture begins to emerge of the destruction caused by the eruption of an undersea volcano near the Pacific archipelago nation.

U.N. humanitarian officials report that about 84,000 people — more than 80% of Tonga’s population — have been impacted by the volca-

no’s eruption, U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said, pointing to three deaths, injuries, loss of homes and polluted water.

Communications have been down throughout Tonga since the eruption Saturday, but a ship made it to the outlying islands of Nomuka, Mango and Fonofua on Wednesday. Ship members reported that few homes remain standing after settlements were hit with 49-foot-high waves, said Katie Greenwood, the head of delegation in the Pacific for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Smuggling migrants: Police in Italy, Albania and Greece on Wednesday arrested some 30 people accused of profiteering several hundred million dollars by smuggling refugees and migrants into the European Union from Turkey on yachts and other leisure vessels.

The coordinated action is believed to have dealt a serious blow to the lucra-

tive Turkey-Europe sailboat crossings, for which people pay \$6,000 to \$10,000 to reach southern Italy, with an eye on northern European destinations.

‘Moon Knight’ actor dies: French actor Gaspard Ulliel, known for appearing in Chanel perfume ads as well as film and television roles, died Wednesday after a skiing accident in the Alps, according to his agent’s office. He was 37.

Ulliel portrayed the young Hannibal Lecter in 2007’s “Hannibal Rising” and fashion mogul Yves Saint Laurent in the 2014 biopic “Saint Laurent.” He is also in the upcoming Marvel series “Moon Knight,” and was the advertising face of the Chanel men’s fragrance Bleu de Chanel.

Local broadcaster France Bleu said Ulliel was hospitalized with a skull injury Tuesday after colliding with another skier at a crossing point on the slopes. The other skier was not hospitalized.



Trinity Health Of New England Medical Group Welcomes Sarah Nguyen, MS, PA-C

Cardiology

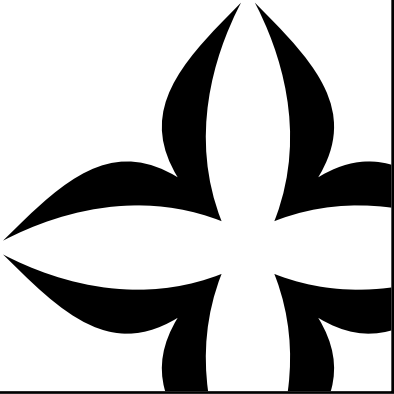
Trinity Health Of New England Medical Group welcomes **Sarah Nguyen, MS, PA-C** as a Physician Assistant.

Sarah, who received her Physician Assistant Certification in June 2004, and her Master of Science in August 2004, most recently served as a PA at MedWorks Occupational Health. There, she conducted full patient care, including physical exams, medications, and administration of vaccinations.

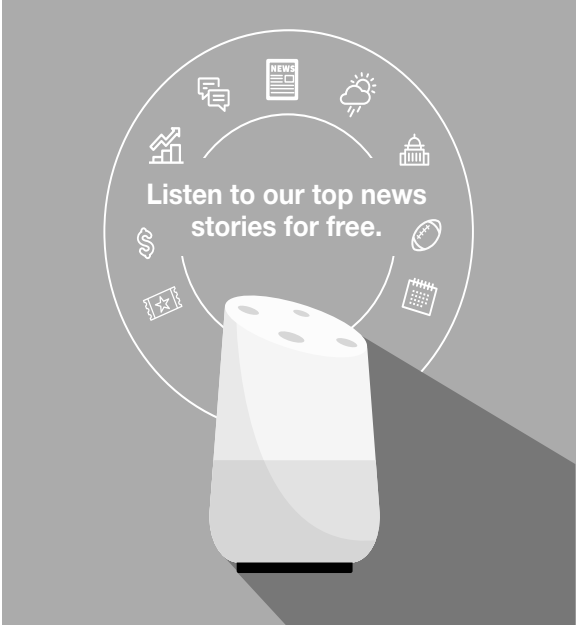
Sarah, who is fluent in English and Vietnamese, is certified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Basic Life Support, and Fundamental Critical Care Support. She is a member of the Connecticut Association of Physician Assistants and the American College of Cardiology.



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BUSINESS

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Airlines canceling flights to US in dispute over 5G

FAA, Boeing reportedly reach out to foreign carriers about concerns to 777s

By Jon Gambrell
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Major international airlines canceled flights heading to the U.S. or changed the planes they’re using Wednesday, the latest complication in a dispute over concerns that new 5G mobile phone service could interfere with aircraft technology.

Carriers took different approaches to the brewing crisis affecting international travel, from Middle Eastern airline Emirates drastically reducing its U.S.-bound flights to Air France saying it would fly as normal.

It wasn’t clear why the airlines made those decisions — or whether they took into account that mobile carriers AT&T and Verizon agreed this week to pause the rollout of the new high-speed wireless service near key airports.

Some airlines said Wednesday they received warnings from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration or Boeing that the plane maker’s 777 was particularly affected by the new wireless service.

It was also not clear how disruptive the cancellations would be. Several airlines said they would try to use different planes to maintain their schedules.

Similar mobile networks have been deployed in dozens of other countries — but there are key differences in how the U.S. network works that could make it more likely to cause problems for airlines.

The 5G network uses a segment of the radio spectrum that is close to that used by radio altimeters, which measure the height of aircraft above the ground and help pilots land in low visibility. The Federal Communications Commission, which sets a buffer between the frequency that 5G uses and the one that altimeters use, determined that it could be used safely in the vicinity of air traffic.

Among the problems that also may make the 5G rollout an issue in the U.S. and not other countries, according to the FAA, are that American towers use a more powerful signal strength than those elsewhere and tower antennae point up at a higher angle.

AT&T and Verizon have said their equipment will not interfere with aircraft electronics.

But FAA officials saw a potential problem, and the telecom companies agreed to a pause Tuesday while it is addressed.

On Wednesday, Emirates announced it would halt flights to several cities due to “operational concerns associated with the planned deployment of 5G mobile network services in the U.S. at certain airports.”

Tim Clark, president of Emirates, pulled no punches when discussing the issue. He told CNN it was “one of the most delinquent, utterly irresponsible” situations he’d ever seen as it involved a failure by government, science and industry.

Japan’s All Nippon Airways said Boeing announced restrictions on airlines flying its 777s, and said it canceled 20 flights over the issue.

British Airways also canceled several planned U.S.-bound Boeing 777 flights and changed aircraft on others.

Chicago-based Boeing Co. said it would work with airlines, the FAA and others to find a solution.

UK inflation balloons to highest level in 30 years

By Danica Kirka
Associated Press

LONDON — Consumer prices in the United Kingdom have risen at the fastest pace in 30 years as higher costs for energy, transportation, food and furniture squeezed household incomes.

Inflation accelerated to 5.4% in the 12 months through December, up from November’s 5.1%, the Office for National Statistics said Wednesday. Last month’s annual figure is the highest since March 1992, when inflation stood at 7.1%.

Economists warned that inflation is likely to rise further in the coming months as tax increases and the full impact of a recent surge in energy prices hit consumers. Gas and electricity bills for millions of households are expected to balloon by 50% or more in April when a semi-annual adjustment in the energy price cap takes effect.

Prices are rising in many countries as the global economy recovers from the coronavirus pandemic, boosting demand for energy and other raw materials and driving wages higher.

U.S. consumer prices rose 7% in the 12 months through December, pushing inflation to the highest level in nearly 40 years. It accelerated last month to a record 5% in the 19 European Union countries that use the euro.

While prices are rising at the fastest pace in decades, inflation remains well below the levels of the early 1970s when a global energy crisis triggered double-digit increases.

The latest U.K. figures will increase pressure on the government to shield low-income families from price increases. Critics have called on Prime Minister Boris Johnson to provide more help with fuel bills and rethink a temporary 1.25% income tax increase to boost funding for the National Health Service and social care.



A “For Sale” sign sits in front of the Biltmore United Methodist Church, a two-building property, in Asheville, N.C. THE REV. LUCY ROBBINS

Struggling in sea of red ink

Pandemic deals a crushing blow to houses of worship suffering financial hardships

By Holly Meyer and Haleluya Hadero
Associated Press

Biltmore United Methodist Church of Asheville, North Carolina, is for sale.

Already financially strapped because of shrinking membership and a struggling preschool, the congregation was dealt a crushing blow by the coronavirus.

Attendance plummeted, with many staying home or switching to other churches that stayed open the whole time.

Gone, too, is the revenue the church formerly got from renting its space for events and meetings.

“Our maintenance costs are just exorbitant,” said the Rev. Lucy Robbins, senior pastor. “And we just don’t have the resources financially that we used to have to be able to do the kind of ministry work that we would like.”

Biltmore is just one of an untold number of congregations across the country that have struggled to stay afloat financially and minister to their flocks during the pandemic, though others have managed to

weather the storm, often with help from the federal government’s Paycheck Protection Program, or PPP, and sustained levels of member donations.

The coronavirus hit at a time when already fewer Americans were going to worship services — with at least half of the nearly 15,300 congregations surveyed in a 2020 report by Faith Communities Today reporting weekly attendance of 65 or less — and exacerbated the problems at smaller churches where increasingly lean budgets often hindered them from things like hiring full-time clergy.

“The pandemic didn’t change those patterns, it only made them a little bit worse,” said Scott Thumma, director of the Hartford Institute for Religion Research and co-chair of Faith Communities Today.

Attendance has been a persistent challenge.

As faith leaders moved to return to in-person worship, first the highly transmissible delta variant and now the even faster-spreading omicron have thrown a wrench into such efforts, with some churches going back online and others still open reporting fewer souls in the pews.

At Biltmore, for example, attendance at weekly services is down from around 70 pre-pandemic to just about 25 today, counting both in-person and online worship.

After congregants voted last May to put the church property, a two-building campus perched on a verdant knoll just off Interstate 40, on the market, church leaders are still figuring out what comes next, including where the congregation will call home.

But they hope to use some of the proceeds from the property sale to support marginalized communities and causes like affordable housing.

During the pandemic, experts said many congregations embraced online giving, which could boost contributions by \$300 per person annually, according to The Faith Communities Today report.

More broadly, various other surveys and reports show a mixed picture on congregational giving nationwide.

Gifts to religious organizations grew by 1% to just over \$131 billion in 2020, a year when Americans also donated a record \$471 billion overall to charity, according to an annual report by GivingUSA. Separately, a September survey of 1,000 Protestant pastors by the evangelical firm Lifeway Research found about half of congregations received roughly what they budgeted for last year, with 27% getting less than anticipated and 22% getting more.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Corps to tackle supply backlog

The Biden administration on Wednesday announced the release of \$14 billion to the Army Corps of Engineers to fund 500 projects, with a focus on easing supply chain problems and addressing climate change.

The spending stems largely from President Joe Biden’s \$1 trillion infrastructure deal, and the administration is trying to show how the projects will improve supply chain backlogs.

Among the projects being funded for the Army Corps of Engineers are \$858 million to replace locks on the Ohio River so that water levels are high enough for large cargo ships and \$470 million for a new lock in Michigan that is key for shipping iron ore. There are also investments at the Port of Long Beach in California and Norfolk Harbor in Virginia.

Starbucks ends vaccine mandate

Starbucks is no longer requiring its U.S. workers to be vaccinated against COVID-19, reversing a policy it announced earlier this month.

In a memo sent Tuesday to employees, the Seattle coffee giant said it was responding to last week’s ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court. In a 6-3 vote, the court rejected the Biden administration’s plan to require vaccines or regular COVID-19 testing at companies with more than 100 workers.

“We respect the court’s ruling and will comply,” Starbucks Chief Operating Officer John Culver wrote in the memo.

Starbucks’ reversal is among the most high-profile corporate actions in response to the high court’s ruling. Many other big companies have been mum on their plans.

Donors to start nonprofit newsroom in Houston

By Haleluya Hadero
Associated Press

Five philanthropies plan to spend more than \$20 million to bolster news coverage in Houston and create what they say will be one of the largest local nonprofit news organizations in the country.

The newsroom is anticipated to launch later this year or early 2023 on multiple platforms, the donors said Wednesday in a news release. The goal, they said, is to “elevate the voices of Houstonians” and address information needs identified through focus groups, community listening sessions and multi-language surveys conducted with local residents.

Ann Stern, president and CEO of the

Houston Endowment, said her organization teamed up with Houston-based Kinder Foundation and Arnold Ventures about two years ago to commission the research from the American Journalism Project, which is giving \$1.5 million in seed funding toward the project and supporting similar initiatives across the country.

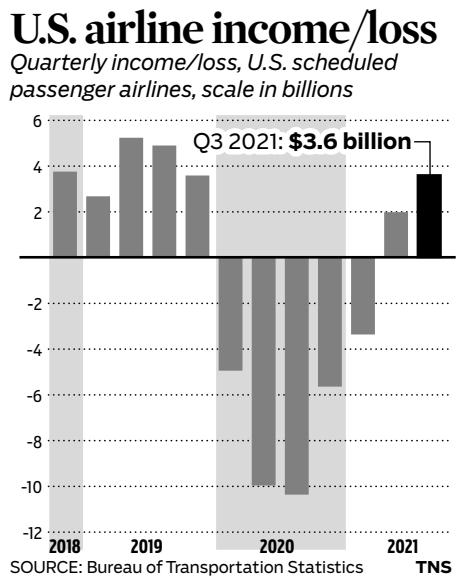
Stern said residents indicated there weren’t sufficient local journalism resources in the city, and some, including those from minority communities, felt they were misrepresented or not represented in the media. Many also wanted more accountability reporting about local officials and their decisions.

“When we all saw the AJP research, we were really compelled to come together and

do something about it,” Stern said.

The Houston Endowment and Kinder are each pitching in \$7.5 million, according to Stern. Meanwhile, Arnold Ventures, the philanthropic investment fund backed by billionaires Laura and John Arnold, and the journalism funder Knight Foundation are giving \$4 million and \$250,000, respectively, she said.

The funders say the newsroom will be financially sustained through donations, memberships and sponsorship revenue. Stern estimates about 40 staffers might be on board when the newsroom launches, but she notes the size will be dependent on how many people the management team eventually decide to hire. A search for the management team is underway.



Helen Bennett
Executive Editor
hbennett@courant.com

OPINION

COURANT.COM/OPINION

Voter turnout myth skews politics



Jonah Goldberg

I have long opposed making voting mandatory, an idea that pops up every few years. I still don't like the idea. But it's become more attractive, at least as a thought experiment.

The arguments against compelling people to vote — as Australia and a handful of other countries do — run from the constitutional (it's coerced speech) to the cultural (this is America, dagnabbit) to the practical and the partisan.

Historically, the practical case is that it's the wrong solution chasing a nonexistent problem. Proponents of mandatory voting think low voter turnout is a sign of civic decay and democratic entropy. This view, no doubt accurate or at least plausible for some, misses the fact that for many others not voting is a sign of general satisfaction. We had record-breaking turnout in 2020. Raise your hand if think that was proof that America's civic and democratic commitments are stronger than ever.

More importantly, if voting is virtuous, its virtue — like all virtue — derives from it being voluntary. Compelled virtue is an oxymoron. Partisanship enters the equation because both parties subscribe to an enduring myth: that increased voter turnout automatically favors the Democrats. Thus, if everyone were forced to vote — many opponents and proponents believe — some imagined reserve army of left-wing voters would swamp the polls. This belief plays a significant role among those who want to make voting easier and those who want to make it harder.

The problem: It's not true. Turning out more of your own voters is how you win elections, but if everybody voted it's unlikely that one party would always benefit more than the other. As Daron Shaw and John Petrocik demonstrate in their book “The Turnout Myth,” “there is no systematic or consistent partisan bias to turnout.” The recent Virginia governor's race saw huge turnout, and Republicans won.

Partisan Democrats have high-minded and sincere reasons for making casting ballots easier for Black voters in particular and disadvantaged communities in general. But the fact that they think these voters will disproportionately vote Democratic drives many of their policy prefer-

ences. Partisan Republicans discount the high-minded arguments and focus on the Democratic advantage they see in such efforts. Meanwhile, Democrats assume any concern with fraud or voter integrity is a ruse for disenfranchising voters.

Republicans tend also to suffer from a weird cognitive dissonance. They fear that if everyone voted, the GOP would lose; they've also convinced themselves that Democrats only win by “importing” voters (i.e., immigrants) and through fraud.

Each party believes — without evidence — that they have the people on their side and that if elections were run “right,” they'd be the majority party. For Democrats this means curtailing “big money” in elections and, lately, federalizing election rules to combat voter suppression. For Republicans, it means catering to Donald Trump's conspiracy theories and psephological rantings. More broadly, both parties ignore the closeness of their victories and act as if they have mandates to behave like they have supermajorities supporting them. They then devote their energies to pandering both rhetorically and in terms of policy to the slender slice of the electorate that is their base. The incentive to appeal to the vast middle is shockingly weak even though politicians, such as Gov. Glenn

Youngkin of Virginia last year or Joe Biden in 2020, owe their victories to the persuadable middle. The incentives for pandering to the hyperpartisans are all too familiar: the pernicious effect of our primary system, self-sorting polarization, an ideologically skewed media ecosystem, and the ease of raising small donations from partisan superfans. President Biden's tone-deaf speech on voting rights and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz's capitulation to Tucker Carlson's Jan. 6 fantasies are recent examples of this.

And that's what appeals to me about mandatory voting. If everybody voted — even just once — it just might dispel the myth that either party speaks for some untapped silent majority. The incentive to drive up the base turnout would evaporate. Low voter turnout — which benefits incumbents and their special interest allies — would not skew election results. Candidates, elected officials and big donors would ignore electoral majorities at their peril. I still oppose this solution, but at least the case for mandatory voting is no longer a solution in pursuit of a problem. Even as a thought experiment, it helps illuminate the real problems we face.

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Biden gets ‘incomplete’ grade for his 1st year

By Jonathan Bernstein
Bloomberg Opinion

Here come the one-year retrospectives of Joe Biden's presidency as the anniversary arrives Thursday. Here are some guidelines for assessing them, beyond the obvious advice to be wary of partisans who would praise or pan Biden regardless of what he had done.

The most important thing to remember is that while presidents are surely the single most important players in the U.S. political system, that's all they are — single players. Even the most successful and influential presidents have limits on what they can do to influence Congress, their party, the courts, the bureaucracy, interest groups, state and local governments, private businesses, foreign governments and more. Evaluations that ignore the context that presidents work in, including the constraints they face, are useless.

The most obvious example in Biden's case is that his Democratic Party has extremely narrow margins in both house of Congress. That's in contrast to each of the other modern Democratic presidents at the beginning of their presidencies, as well as a sharp contrast with Republican Presidents Richard Nixon and George H.W. Bush, whose entire presidencies were conducted without same-party majorities in each chamber.

But that's hardly all. A conservative (and partisan) Supreme Court has already proved a serious constraint, as have several state governments that seem driven to a historically unusual degree by a partisan drive to oppose whatever the president supports. To be sure, a resourceful and skilled president might be able to overcome such things, but that doesn't mean the constraints aren't real or that the particular context doesn't heavily determine a president's opportunities.

A second caution is to be sure that any evaluation is clear about the differences between the president, the presidency and the larger political system. Former President Donald Trump was an extreme



The one-year anniversary of Joe Biden's inauguration as the 46th president of the United States is Thursday. **SUSAN WALSH/AP 2021**

case of a leader who often received credit or blame for actions taken by executive branch actors that he had little or nothing to do with.

To some extent, the president bears some responsibility for everything done by the White House staff and the entire executive branch, and there's nothing wrong with considering the records of the entire Biden or Trump administration. Just be careful if someone is conflating the performance of Biden as president with the overall performance of the Biden administration.

It gets more complicated. Congress, not the president, passes legislation; it's fair to consider how a president influenced Congress, but not to assume that whatever happened must have been what the president wanted. So beware of frustrated liberals certain that Biden betrayed them because this or that portion of their agenda has stalled, and ignore claims that had Biden really wanted something, the relevant bill would have passed.

Beware, too, of conservatives who attribute the preferences of liberal Democrats in Congress to Biden, as if he could have simply forced them to drop their priorities if he willed it. Perhaps Biden could have bargained better and perhaps not; one has to make that case, rather than just asserting that presidents should be able to get what they want. No U.S. president has ever

achieved very much of that, at least not over the objections of those with whom he shares power.

It's always a good idea to be alert for the “pundit's fallacy” — the certainty that a politician would be far more successful if only he or she supported the pundit's ideas.

But even more tempting is the tendency to be swayed by the one clear and objective number that appears to evaluate a presidency all by itself: the president's approval rating. Links between presidential performance and presidential popularity are often tenuous, and lots of important things that presidents do, including most day-to-day foreign policy decisions, are unlikely to show up in approval ratings at all. When Biden's approval ratings were fairly good in his first six months, analysts often assumed that his actions must be the reason. Now that his numbers are weak, everyone wants to attribute them to the choices he's made. The exact same actions are likely to be interpreted as successes when things are going well and mistakes when they're not.

Remember that the real grade most presidents deserve after one year is “incomplete.” Some processes haven't played out yet, and there may be important information that has yet to become public.

Sometimes, multiple warning signs converge. So a story that attributes high inflation, or good jobs and economic

growth numbers entirely to Biden would be badly overstating any president's ability to influence the economy and may also treat the current numbers as immutable ones rather than partial results for a four- or eight-year presidency. The odds are that as long as Biden's approval numbers are low, critics will write about how inflation is hurting him, while if his approval rebounds (perhaps if the latest coronavirus wave ends), prepare to read more about the strong parts of the economy and fewer about inflation even if it remains high.

The impulse to evaluate the actions of politicians is healthy. It would be nice if the analysts didn't focus so one-dimensionally on the Oval Office, but it's a fact of American political life that there's lots of demand for reports about how Biden is doing and a lot less for evaluations of Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi or the Chair of the Senate Finance Committee (that's Ron Wyden of Oregon, by the way) or, for that matter, Sen. Joe Manchin, the West Virginia thorn in the progressive Democrats' side.

So I'm not going to complain about the coming deluge of how's-Biden-doing opinionizing. Soak it up. Just don't take most of it too seriously.

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Trump isn't responsible for aggressive behavior from Iran

By Bobby Ghosh
Bloomberg Opinion

As the nuclear negotiations between the world powers and Iran approach a denouement, the Biden administration is turning up the heat on ... Donald Trump? Facing a Republican clamor against reviving the 2015 deal, the White House is keen to reframe the discussion in Washington about the talks in Vienna by blaming the previous president for having ill-advisedly pulled out of the agreement.

In two recent instances, State Department and White House spokespeople deflected journalists' questions about the negotiations to whale on Trump's 2018 withdrawal from the accord, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. Jen Psaki, the administration's press secretary, portrayed it as the root of all the Islamic Republic's malign activities: “None of the things we're looking at now — Iran's increased capability and capacity, the aggressive actions that they have taken through proxy wars around the world — would be happening if the former president had not recklessly pulled out of the nuclear deal with no thought as to what might come next.”

As a Beltway political tactic, this gives President Joe Biden a ready-made excuse for the two likeliest outcomes of the talks. If the administration makes significant concessions to revive the JCPOA — such as agreeing to lift some economic sanctions before Iran has returned to full compliance with its terms — then the White House can claim Trump's hasty pullout left it with no good options. If talks fail and the Islamic Republic continues to enrich uranium toward weapons-grade levels, then it was Trump's fault for removing the restraints imposed by the original deal. But as a foreign policy strategy, it is too clever by half: It gives the Iranians a ready-made excuse — Trump — for their dangerous breaches of the JCPOA and their aggressive behavior in the Middle East. To American allies in the region, it signals that the administration has a blinkered view of the threat they face from Tehran.

There is certainly an argument that the regime might not have ratcheted up its nuclear program — not openly, anyway — had the 2015 deal still been in force. But as Israeli and the Arab states of the Levant and the Persian Gulf know from painful experience, the Iranian threat long predates Iran's nuclear capabilities.

The proxy wars referenced by Psaki have been raging since the creation of the Islamic Republic in 1979, when the new theocratic regime in Tehran began to support armed groups across the Middle East. Over the next three decades, it built a vast network of proxies and partners, ranging from Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza to the Houthis in Yemen and several militias in Iraq. These were used as fifth columns to foment conflict within Arab societies as well as to menace Israel.

Even before the JCPOA was signed, a Houthi-instigated civil war in Yemen had drawn in a Saudi-led Arab coalition, Hezbollah and Iranian troops were slaughtering Syrian civilians to prop up the Syrian regime of dictator Bashar Assad, Hamas was at daggers permanently drawn with Israel and Iran's proxies in Iraq had killed hundreds of American troops.

At home, meanwhile, the regime in Tehran was developing ballistic-missile technology as well as bulking up its military and paramilitary forces. The 2015 agreement pursued by the administration of President Barack Obama was confined to one element of the Iranian threat: A nuclear program that Tehran claimed was peaceful. The deal was meant to prevent

the regime from acquiring nuclear weapons for a couple of decades, in exchange for a lifting of sanctions imposed by the U.N. and the U.S. But it didn't require Iran to renounce its destabilizing activities.

Critics of the deal worried that an unshackled Islamic Republic would grow more aggressive. They were right: In the two years that the JCPOA was in effect, Iran ramped up military spending at home, especially on its missile program, and increased support for its proxies.

Trump's critics are right to point out that his reckless abrogation of the deal didn't end these activities, but the reimposition of sanctions curtailed Iran's access to money and munitions. It isn't hard to imagine how much more harm Hezbollah or the Houthis would have done, or be capable of doing, if they had more cash and advanced weaponry from Tehran.

It is absurd to suggest that Trump's withdrawal from the JCPOA increased Iran's aggression, much less caused it. While the Biden administration's new messaging might work in Washington, it won't wash in the Middle East.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Hartford

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The State of Connecticut Department of Housing
is seeking public comment on the Draft State of Connecticut HOME Investment Partnerships Program - American Rescue Plan ("HOME - ARP") Allocation Plan

A fifteen (15) day public comment period will begin on Thursday, January 20, 2022 and end on Friday, February 4, 2022. The Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH) is looking for public comment on the Draft State of Connecticut HOME Investment Partnerships Program - American Rescue Plan ("HOME - ARP") Allocation Plan. HOME - ARP funds are allocated to help communities provide housing, shelter, and services for the most vulnerable populations. HOME - ARP funds are in addition to the state's regular FY 2021 HOME formula allocation. The State of Connecticut's HOME - ARP allocation is \$35,939,963.

The Department of Housing will conduct a VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING on Thursday, February 3, 2022 beginning at 10:00 AM and ending when all attendees have had an opportunity to provide input and comment. Housing authorities, municipalities, non-profits, advocates and the general public are invited to attend this public meeting and provide input/comment on the Draft State of Connecticut HOME Investment Partnerships Program - American Rescue Plan ("HOME - ARP") Allocation Plan. If you or your organization is interested in participating in the VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING, please send an e-mail to: CT.HOUSING.PLANS@ct.gov with "Virtual Public Meeting - DRAFT HOME - ARP Allocation Plan" in the "Subject" line. An E-mail link will be sent to all registered participants using the Microsoft TEAMS application.

DOH will also accept electronic input/comment on the administration of these funds through 5:00 pm on Friday, February 4, 2022 at CT.HOUSING.PLANS@ct.gov. All input and comments received will be taken into consideration. For a copy of on the Draft State of Connecticut HOME Investment Partnerships Program - American Rescue Plan ("HOME - ARP") Allocation Plan, please refer to the Department of Housing's website, <http://www.ct.gov/doh> under Notices and Publications, or you may request a copy via email at the above address.

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INVITATION TO BID**

BID #	ITEM	DATE & TIME REQUIRED
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GL-2022-25 Annual Sidewalk Program February 03, 2022 @ 11:00 A.M.

The Town of Glastonbury will receive on-line bids for the repair and replacement of concrete sidewalks and concrete sidewalk ramps at various locations throughout the town.

Bidders wishing to submit a bid proposal for this solicitation are directed to respond online through a secure e-Procurement portal. Responses can be submitted at the following link: <https://app.negometrix.com/buyer/2832>, under the bid title "GL-2022-25 Annual Sidewalk Program". All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. No late bids will be accepted.

This Invitation to Bid, Instructions to Bidders, Drawings, Specifications and other Bidding Documents (as defined in the Instruction to Bidders) are available for viewing and downloading on the Town of Glastonbury website www.glastonburyct.gov or the State's website at www.das.state.ct.us at no cost.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a bid security in the form of a Bid Bond, certified in an amount not less than 10% of the base bid except as otherwise expressly provided in the Instruction to Bidders. The successful bidder will be required to provide performance and labor and material payment bonds in the full amount of the agreed contract price.

Bidders are further advised that this project is subject to the prevailing wage requirements of Connecticut General Statutes Section 31-53.

The Town of Glastonbury is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority/Women's Business Enterprises are encouraged to bid.

The Town reserves the right to amend or withdraw this Invitation to Bid for any reason, to accept or reject any or all Bids, to waive any informalities or non-material deficiencies in any Bid, and to make such award (or make no award) of a contract in connection with this Invitation to Bid as is determined by the Town, in its discretion, to be in the best interest of the Town. A Bid may be rejected for irregularities of any kind, including without limitation, alteration of form, additions not called for, conditional proposals, and incomplete Bids. A Bid may also be rejected if, in the opinion of the Town, the Bid does not meet the standard of quality established by the Bidding Documents. Any or all Bids may be rejected if there is any reason to believe that collusion exists among two or more Bidders. The foregoing provisions are for illustrative purposes and shall in no way limit the right of the Town to reject any and all Bids, in whole or in part.

Mary F. Visone
Purchasing Agent
1/20/2022 7130522

Auto / Truck Wanted

CASH PAID - for any Toyota, other makes. Any condition. Running or not, crashed okay. Will take other makes and models. 203-600-4431

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860-525-2525

AT HOME

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Connecticut

Notice to Vendors

Sealed solicitations will be received by the Association of Educational Purchasing Agencies (AEPAs) on behalf of its 29 State Member Agencies until:
1:30 p.m. ET, Thursday, February 24, 2022
Bid: 022.5-A Athletic Equipment & Supplies;
022.5-B Career & Technical Education; and
022.5-C Institutional Kitchen Equipment

All responses shall be submitted online via Public Purchase by the due date and time listed above. AEPAs documents can be downloaded at no cost after registering on Public Purchase at www.publicpurchase.com. Note that Vendors must be able to provide their proposed products and services in up to 29 states.

Solicitations will be publicly opened after 1:30 p.m. ET on Thursday, February 24, 2022, at Lakes Country Service Cooperative, 1001 E Mt. Faith, Fergus Falls, MN 56537. An opening record will be posted to AEPACOP.org. 1/18/22, 1/19/22, 1/20/22 7121132

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated: 576 Danbury Road, New Milford, CT, 06776, 1/27/2022 at 11:00 AM., Geams T. Gill Unit #129 containing household items, dresser, tv, Kathy Barreira Unit #186 containing household items, Richard Duane Evans, Unit #168 containing Bed, Mattress, Table, Refrigerator, Bags, Chairs, Power Tools, Tool Box Matthew Solberg Unit RV502 containing trailer, household items, tables couch The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage4treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property. 1/13, 1/20/22 7122287

**NOTICE OF DECISIONS
MIDDLETOWN PLANNING & ZONING
COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 12, 2022**

1. Approved a subdivision to create 18 lots, open space, and a road currently known as Military Road. Applicant/agent The Middletown Housing Partnership Trust, Inc./David E. Rosenberg, Esq. S2021-4
2. Approved a re-subdivision to create 3 lots from a 1.26 ac property located at 1408 Randolph Road. Applicant/agent Cocomo II, LLC. S2021-5
3. Granted an affirmative GS 8-24 report for the acquisition of property on Atkins Street for open space and passive recreation. Applicant/agent City of Middletown/Land Use Dept. GS 8-24 2022-1 Thomas Pattavina, Chair Planning and Zoning Commission 1/20/2022 7127719

Steve Dale's
PET WORLD
Sundays in Smarter Living

**CRCOG Educational Webinars for
Businesses and Entrepreneurial
Meetups RFP
Request for Proposals**

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is seeking assistance with Educational Webinars for Businesses and Entrepreneurial Meetups. A Request for Proposals, including a preliminary scope of work, consulting firm requirements, and submission instructions may be found on the CRCOG website at <http://crog.org/rfp/rfq/>. Questions should be directed in writing to the CRCOG staff indicated in the RFP. Statements of qualifications must be received by CRCOG no later than 2:00 p.m. on February 11, 2022. Responses received after this date and time will not be considered. 1/20/2022 7127640

U-Haul Moving and Storage Company of Main Street, will sell household and personal items, contained in the following storage rooms due to unpaid storage fees on Tuesday, February 8th, 2022..

JOYVETTE FOSTER 1088

Glide Rite	1258
missel ortiz	1519
Sheba PrescottNash	1411
tanaya white	1119
Safari Carr	1151
Kueshonda Jackson	1463
Keith Williams	1030
Luis Serrano	1306
LATOYA SAYLOR-CARTER	1131
Jonathan Wilson	1086
Ian Taylor	0971
ANNA ALVAREZ	1048
Jamail Taylor	1497
jermaine gray	1068
Joe ramos	1097
Wayne Silvera	1026
lee baskervilleB006	1438
Cheryl Terrell	1487
Adreann Mchugh	1487
Leo Waters	1036
Skyler Grant	1451
DAVON WILLIAMS	0987
leandra young	1467

Contents to be sold on the premises of 73197 Main street, Hartford, CT 06120 on Tuesday, February 8th, 2022 on Storageauctions.com and close out at 9:00AM. Purchases to be paid for at the time of purchase, a \$100.00 cash deposit will be needed on EACH room purchased. UHAUL reserves the right to bid or purchase any lot or space. Auction service provided by www.storageauctions.com. Absolutely NO U-Haul Storage customers, or their family or friends on their behalf, whose units are listed in auction, may participate in any auction proceedings. You MUST contact Marketing Company Storage Manager, Joy Pace, for an appointment to purchase any units won in auction. All persons will be turned away without an appointment. Contact Joy Pace with any questions or concerns at Joy_Pace@uhaul.com 1/20, 1/21/2022 7128248

**NOTICE OF INLAND WETLANDS &
WATERCOURSES PERMIT
THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
555 Main Street
Hartford, Connecticut
January 20, 2022**

LEGAL NOTICE AA21-290 - Various locations Town-Wide, Windsor, CT - Re: Sewer Easement Vegetation Clearing within wetlands and upland review was approved by the Windsor Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission on January 4, 2022. 1/20/2022 7131486

**DEMING RIDGE
INVITATION TO BID**

The Metro Construction Corporation is seeking bids from qualified subcontractors, suppliers, and service providers for the construction of an 88 unit, new mixed-income housing development on a greenfield site located in Berlin, Connecticut. Interested parties must provide evidence of qualifications, including but not limited to:

- Materials and trades bid per this advertisement include:
 - o Site work
 - o Concrete material supply
 - Minimum of ten years trade experience
 - Experience working as a subcontractor on projects of a least 50 units
 - References from building owners and supply houses
 - Workers Compensation & adequate general liability insurance
 - Pre-bid meeting Wednesday, January 26th, 2022. Contact below for time/location
 - Sealed bids due February 9th, 2022 to the address below

The Metro Construction Corporation must demonstrate good faith efforts to meet the 25% set-aside goals for SBE and 6.25% set-aside goals for MBE/WBE/DBE.

To request full bid package, use Dropbox link:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1e685gtpymd9obz/AABX9fEv4y9aozOjy0tHmf_a?dl=0

Or contact:

The Metro Construction Corporation
6 Executive Drive, Suite 100
Farmington, CT 06032
wcsweko@metro-realty.com

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.
Minority/Women's Business Enterprises are encouraged to apply.
1/19-21/2022 7130956

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OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Bloomfield Elaine M. Berson Michael A. Brown	Newington William S. Hiltz Old Saybrook Mary A. Janesky
Bristol Judith A. Kulak Benito Marrocco Ralph Settembri Clarence Sirois John P. Zils	Other Towns in CT Marylou Ridley Mildred R. Simonetti
Burlington Nancy Jewett	Out of State Elizabeth Comstock Frank V. Depace
Colchester Gregory Polakewitz	Rocky Hill William S. Hiltz Antoni Ptak Mildred R. Simonetti
Cromwell Carol E. Deane Joanne M. Niedbala	Simsbury Lenore R. Lazich
Enfield Frank V. Depace	South Windsor David N. Chapman
Farmington Michael J. Dirrigl Giuseppina Giaratana Nancy Jewett Benito Marrocco Ralph Settembri John P. Zils	Southington Dorothy H. Blum
Glastonbury Deborah L. Caputo	Storrs Joseph C. Major
Granby Elaine M. Berson Lenore R. Lazich	Suffield Irene T. Koistinen Natalie J. Mahoney
Hartford Michael A. Brown Carol E. Deane Rita Hutchinson	Tolland Sylvia Hadge
Manchester Deborah L. Caputo Sylvia Hadge	West Hartford Gregory Polakewitz
New Britain Michael J. Dirrigl Giuseppina Giaratana Judith A. Kulak Joanne M. Niedbala Carlo Quicquaro, Jr.	Windsor Vera L. Palmer
	Windsor Locks Irene T. Koistinen
	OUT OF STATE Elizabeth Comstock Sebring, FL

* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Brown, Michael Anthony



Michael Anthony Brown, affectionately known as “Black or Big Mike”, 51, of Hartford, CT left this earth on Saturday, January 1, 2022. Michael was born on April 6, 1970 to Willie B. Slappy and Louise Brown in Hartford, CT. A celebration of life for Michael will take place on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at 10:00am with a calling hour from 9:00am – 10:00am at Henry L. Fuqua Funeral Service (A Division of Howard K. Hill Funeral Services), 94 Granby Street, Bloomfield, CT 06002. Interment will be held at Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery, 1 Cottage Grove Road, Bloomfield, CT 06002. To leave a message of comfort for the Brown family and view the full obituary please visit, www.hkhfuneralservices.com



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Berson, Elaine M. (Max)



Elaine Muriel Berson passed peacefully January 17, 2022 at the McLean Care Facility in Simsbury, CT. Beloved mother, grandmother, and dear friend, she leaves her son, Seth Pollock, grandchildren, Capt. Joshua Pollock DO US Army, and Tyler Pollock, and a multitude of friends. Born in the Bronx, NY, she graduated college married and moved to Bloomfield, CT working at the Board of Ed. Muriel was predeceased by her parents, brother, husbands Edwin Pollock, Efrem “Bob” Berson, and loving companion Martin Katz. Muriel will be laid to rest 1/20/2022 at 11:00 at the Beth Hillel cemetery in East Granby, CT. Arrangements made through Weinstein’s Mortuary

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Caputo, Deborah Lee

Deborah Lee (Agostinelli) Caputo, age 68, of Columbia, passed away on January 18, 2022. Deborah was a lifelong resident of Connecticut. She was born in Hartford, grew up in Manchester and Glastonbury, and lived most of her adult life in the Columbia area. Deborah graduated from East Catholic High School in 1971. She was employed as an IT Systems Analyst for over thirty years by the State of Connecticut and was currently retired. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law Douglas Caputo and Kathryn Mooney of Atlanta, GA, and grandsons Thomas and Rocco Caputo. She also leaves her brother Matthew Manfreda and his wife Tina, and stepfather Frank Manfreda, all of Windham, CT; sister-in-law Florence Savage of Edgewater, NJ; dear cousins Annie, Michelle, Jill, and their families; her very best friend on earth MaryAnn; also, many loving relatives and friends. She was predeceased by her husband Thomas Caputo; sister Susan Agostinelli; mother Maxine Manfreda; and father Henry Agostinelli. Calling hours for family and friends will be at the Tierney Funeral Home, 219 West Center St., Manchester, on Sunday, January 23rd, 2022, from 12 – 3 p.m. Donations may be made to a charity of your choice. But her son Douglas knew she loved nothing more than beautiful flowers for her to admire. For online condolences, please visit www.tierneyfuneralhome.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Janesky, Mary Ann



The Family of Mary Ann (Kinnelly) Jasenky is sad to announce her passing on Sunday, January 2nd in Wallingford, CT. Mary was 83. Born in the Bronx, NY to William and Helen Kinnelly she grew up on Long Island. After marrying Frank (Fritz) Janesky Jr., her husband 55 years, they made their home in Greenwich, CT to raise

their family. They retired to Old Saybrook, CT in 1999. Mary is survived by 3 daughters Patricia Mucha of Fairfield, CT, Debora Wolfe of Deep River, CT, and Penny Skulski of Wallingford, CT. Her son James in 2014 and her husband Fritz predeceased her in 2015. A service will be planned for a later date. Fulton-Theroux Funeral Home, Old Lyme is handling the arrangements.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

OBITUARIES

Niedbala, Joanne Marie



Joanne Marie Niedbala, 76, sister of Joseph Stanley Niedbala, Jr. of Cromwell, passed away peacefully on January 8, 2022 at Pilgrim Manor in Cromwell at the end of a day she spent with family by her side. Joanne, or AJ, as she came to be known by family and friends, was born September 26, 1945 in New Britain to the late Joseph Niedbala and the late Stefania Niedbala (née Bednarz) in New Britain, CT. She lived most of her life in New Britain before residing in Portland and eventually Cromwell. She attended Sacred Heart School and St. Thomas Aquinas High School in New Britain and was a member of Sacred Heart Parish. As a young woman she was employed in the manufacturing industry, in particular American Hardware and Emhart, where she rose to be a department head—and a crucial member of their recreational bowling league. She retired early due to health reasons but maintained an active role in New Britain life. She volunteered at St. Lucian’s Residence and the Monsignor Bojnowski Manor nursing home painting ceramics, and she provided rides to disabled people unable to drive. Joanne also served on New Britain’s Commission on Persons With Disabilities; in 1995 Mayor Lucian J. Pawlak appointed her as chairwoman, a role she occupied for several years. Her activist work helped New Britain become nationally recognized for its focus on accessibility.

Joanne had many joys in life and was best known for her sense of humor and sharp wit—and for the latter, it was better to be her co-conspirator than her target. But she also had a disarming, self-deprecating humor, and she was not afraid to be silly, dressing up her cane (affectionately named Ralph) and later her walker (his name was Norton) for different seasons and festivities. In fact, crafts and decorations were her forte, and she could make themed holidays out of any small change in season. She was famous for her holiday cookies and breads, as well as her applesauce and soups. Joanne was a giving person, regularly cooking for an army and distributing her goods to family and neighbors as well as donating to local food banks and charities. She kept a vegetable garden with her father when she was young and continued to do so for decades after she lost him. She regularly watched Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy with her mother, and anyone who watched with them knew they would have won had they ever been contestants. She was a huge fan of UConn Huskies basketball, New Britain baseball, and the Boston Red Sox. Joanne comes from a large extended yet close-knit family, too numerous to name in full here but very dear to her. In addition to her brother Joseph Niedbala and his wife Suzanne, she is survived and will be dearly missed by cousins Dorothy Hemingway of Waterford (who was more sister than cousin), James Pzynski and his wife Margaret of Florida, Francis Jacubiak of Meriden, and John Bednarz of South Windsor; cousins-in-law Shirley Pzynski and Milton Martin; and all of their children and grandchildren, whom she adopted as honorary nieces and nephews. She had a special relationship with her brother’s children as well: niece Amanda Greenwell and her husband Robert of Wethersfield; nephew Daniel Niedbala and his wife Yuletti of Wethersfield; and nephew Gregory Niedbala and his wife Christine of Wethersfield; as well as all of their children—her “grandnephews” and “grandniece,” as she referred to them, and in whom she took great delight.

She was predeceased by her parents, Joseph and Stefania Niedbala; her cousins Thomas Pzynski, Barbara Martin, James Niedbala, and Lassiter Parsons; and her cousins-in-law Theodore Jacubiak, Regina Bednarz, and Patrick Hemingway (whom we imagine giving her a big hug in heaven).

Joanne’s family would like to express their deep gratitude to the Pilgrim Manor staff for their wonderful care and to her friends and neighbors at the Atrium in Portland for their many acts of kindness, support—and good-natured jabs that she treasured, and then gave right back to them. Funeral services and liturgy will be on Saturday, January 22, 2022, at 9:30am at Sacred Heart Church in New Britain. Private burial will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to your local food bank or charity. And do something that makes you laugh.

For online tributes, please visit www.newbritainsagarino.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Giarratana, Giuseppina (Aresco)



Giuseppina “Pinuccia” Giarratana (Aresco), 81, of New Britain, passed away on January 17, 2022. She was a loving wife for 56 years to Sebastiano Giarratana. Josephine was born in Melilli, Province of Siracusa, Italy, on March 21, 1942 to the late Salvatore Aresco and Filomena DiDato. Josephine is survived by her loving son, Salvatore Giarratana and daughter-in-law Karleen Giarratana of Farmington. She is predeceased by her husband Sebastiano Giarratana and her daughter Elizabeth Giarratana. Josephine is also survived by her three loving grandchildren; Kara and her fiancé Michael Llanos, Kayla, and Sebastian Giarratana. She is also survived by her brother Paul Aresco and his wife Rosetta Aresco, sisters; Teresa Aresco, Sebastiana Avella and her husband Antonio Avella all of New Britain, and Carmela Farsakh and her husband Hisham Farsakh of California. She is predeceased by her brother Angelo Aresco. She is also survived by her sister-in-laws; Concetta Bordonaro of Berlin, Maria Perrault of Southington, and Lidia Onisto and her husband Joseph Onisto of New Britain. She is predeceased by her sister-in-laws; Carmela Cialfi and Lucia Ciarcia, and brother-in-laws; Sebastiano Bordonaro, Andrea Cialfi, Dennis Perrault, and Paul Ciarcia Sr. She also leaves behind many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Josephine moved to Connecticut in 1964 and grew up in New Britain where she resided for 58 years. She attended schools in Italy. She was a parishioner of Saint Joseph’s Church. Josephine enjoyed taking care of her family through her cooking and making their favorite dishes. She also took care of her grandchildren growing up and many nieces and nephews. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, January 24, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church, Divine Providence Parish, 195 So. Main St. New Britain. Entombment will follow in St. Mary Cemetery Mausoleum. Calling hours will be Monday, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Erickson-Hansen Funeral Home, 411 So. Main St., New Britain. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Josephine Giarratana’s memory may be made to: National Alliance on Mental Illness namict.org NAMI Connecticut, 1030 New Britain Ave., Suite 201, West Hartford, CT 06110. Please share a memory of Giuseppina in the online guestbook at www.ericksonhansen.com

ERICKSON-HANSEN

New Britain

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

DePace, Frank Vincent



Frank Vincent DePace, 74, of Cape Coral (formerly of Enfield, CT), passed away suddenly at home on Tuesday, January 11, 2022. Born in Sewickley, Pennsylvania on August 28, 1947, Frank was the son of the late Vincent and Dorothy (D’Amico) DePace. He attended Freedom Area Jr-Sr High School and graduated in the class of 1966. After graduation, Frank enlisted in the Army and proudly served his country in Vietnam where he was, notably, the recipient of a Bronze Star Medal with valor.

After being honorably discharged from active duty, he reenlisted in the Army Reserves. He furthered his education by completing a lineman apprenticeship program. Frank would go on to work for nearly forty years as a lineman. He began his career working for Republic Steel in 1977 and was laid off in 1985 due to economic downturn. While looking for employment, he saw a full-page ad in the Sunday paper for a lineman position with the Connecticut Light and Power Company (“CL&P”). He applied and was hired on the spot. Frank moved his family from Ambridge, PA and settled in Enfield, CT. He worked for CL&P for the next 29 years and was a proud union member of IBEW Local 457. In 2011, Frank was awarded the Chairman’s Lifesaving Action Award for saving the life of a boy that had been hit by a car while riding his bike. The boy had been injured and was lying in the middle of a busy roadway. Frank blocked the road with his truck and comforted him until the paramedics arrived. He retired in 2014 and moved to Cape Coral.

In his retirement, Frank worked with local veterans’ organizations such as the Wounded Warrior Anglers, the AMMLVETS, Healing Waters, PTSD Awareness Summit and Fish with a Hero.

Frank loved fishing, gardening, cheering on the Pittsburgh Steelers, swimming in his pool, watching movies and listening to country music. He might not have remembered the words, but he could always whistle along. He was a great bowler and billiards player. He was also an amazing handyman that could fix or build anything.

He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Marsha of Cape Coral; two sons, Jon and his wife Marie, Mark and his wife Marissa, both of Enfield, CT; three sisters, Catherine “Tootsie” Lockheart and Donna Little both of Converse, TX and Phauline Hyde of Wampum, PA; a brother, James Hoffman of San Antonio, TX. There are also two grandchildren that “Pap-pap” loved tremendously, Anthony and Logan.

Frank was predeceased by his sister, Rose Marie (DePace) Harris; his niece, Victoria Harris and his nephew, Joshua Hoffman.

He will be missed dearly by all he knew – his wife, his family in CT, his siblings in TX and PA, his extended family in Western PA, his life-long friend Gary Snair, all the veterans in Florida that he had befriended in retirement and all the linemen he worked alongside throughout his career at CL&P.

Funeral Services with Military Honors will be held 6:00 PM Friday, January 21, 2022 at Mullins Memorial 3654 Palm Beach Blvd., Ft. Myers, FL 33916 with Father Tom Heck officiating. The family will receive friends for a time of visitation from 4:00 PM until the time of service. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in his memory may be made to PTSD Awareness Summit (<https://ptsdawarenessummit.org/services>), Fish with a Hero (<https://www.fishwithahero.com/make-a-donation>) Healing Waters (<https://healingwaters.org/>) or to the American Heart Association (https://www2.heart.org/site/SPageNavigator/drtv_helpheart.html?s_subsrc=global_nav) or PO BOX 840692, Dallas, TX 75284.

Friends are invited to send condolences via the on-line guest book which can be found at www.MullinsMemorial.com.

Mullins Memorial Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Cape Coral, is entrusted with final care.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Hutchinson, Rita



We mourn the passing of Rita, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother on January 15th, 2022, at the age of 98 from complications of Covid-19. She was born Rita Frances Callahan in New Haven to Julia Gorman Callahan and John “Jack” Callahan of Lilac Street on July 23rd, 1923. She went to Bassett Street School and

Hillhouse High School. In the midst of WWII, she attended the Hospital of St. Raphael School of Nursing graduating in the class of 1944. She then joined the Army Nurse Corp as a second lieutenant and was assigned initially to Fort Devens, Massachusetts treating home-coming soldiers. She was slated for transfer to Burma when the war ended. She married another home-coming GI, Walter F. Hutchinson, of Hamden in June of 1946, while continuing her nursing career as a visiting nurse in New Haven. In 1948 the first of her three children, Gordon, was born, followed by Brian in 1950 and Dawn as the youngest, in 1954. She took time off from nursing until her youngest was in high school when she returned to medical floor nursing at Hospital of St. Raphael – ultimately, she stayed at unit 4E specializing in peritoneal dialysis patients. She was an active member of the Hospital of St. Raphael School of Nursing Alumni Association. She and Walter lived in Hamden where her children all attended public schools. After her retirement from nursing, they both enjoyed and cherished being active grandparents helping with their eight grandchildren. The death of her husband, Walter, in 2007 of pancreatic cancer and the subsequent death of her youngest, Dawn, in 2018, had a profound impact on her, though she continued to live independently. She moved initially to Cheshire living there for many years, then to an assisted living arrangement in East Haven following a hip fracture early in 2021. She was hospitalized with a recent fall and the diagnosis of active Covid-19 infection. She died peacefully from respiratory complications of Covid on Saturday, January 15th at age 98. She will be sorely missed by her entire family. Her kind, gentle and loving character will remain with us forever. She is survived by her son, Dr. Gordon Hutchinson, his wife Margrit and their two children, daughter Maya of Avon, Colorado, and Drs. Christoph and wife, Morgan of Philadelphia: son Brian and his wife Carmen of Beacon Falls, Connecticut and their children Yvonne, and Tina and granddaughter, Olivia of Tennessee. She also leaves her son-in-law, Leonard, of Avon, Connecticut, husband of her beloved daughter, Dawn who pre-deceased Rita in 2018. They have four children: grandson Kevin of West Hartford, grandson Matthew of Avon, granddaughter Molly of Boston and granddaughter Kelly and son-in-law Sebastian Burzacchi with great granddaughter, Shea of Arizona. There will be no viewing time. Mass of Christian burial will be at St. Mary’s Church, Hillhouse Avenue in New Haven at 10 AM, Saturday, January 22nd. Burial will be in St. Mary’s Cemetery 3110 Whitney Ave., Hamden, CT. Any florist arrangements order can be sent directly to Sisk Brothers Funeral Home, 3105 Whitney Ave. Hamden which is in charge of the arrangements. www.siskbrothers.com

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OBITUARIES

Hadge, Sylvia



Sylvia "Sue" Hadge, 93, of Manchester, loving wife, mother, and grandma died on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 17, 2022. She was born June 11, 1928, in Sanford, ME, daughter of the late Rev. E. Charles and Pauline Marie Gray Dartnell. Sue was a member of the University of Maine Class of 1950 earning a Bachelor's Degree and later her Master's Degree from Simmons School of Social Work where she met her husband Mitchell.

She worked for many years as a social worker for the Manchester Public Schools from where she retired in 1992. She loved all the children she worked with and was known as "the hugger" for all the hugs she gave. She was passionate about equity and fair housing and served on many boards including Co-Op Initiatives, Common Thread, Manchester Housing Commission, and MISAC, among others. She was also very active in the League of Women Voters. In 1965 she flew down to Selma, Alabama with a group from Manchester to participate in the historic civil rights marches.

In her youth, she lived in several towns in Maine as her father was a Methodist minister. Up in Aroostook County she fondly remembered her days picking potatoes with her friends as they had several weeks off from school to get the job done. She was very athletic and in her youth she participated in skiing, tennis and basketball. Sue continued with tennis and was a top player in the Manchester area for many years. She enjoyed playing bridge with her friends and loved to go on adventures to places such as England, New Zealand, the Galapagos Islands, and the Women's Final Four to watch the UCONN women. As much as she loved an adventure she was very content with the many summers she spent at her family cottage in Cape Rosier, Maine. She loved spending time with her family but particularly her grandchildren and great grandchild. She was a longtime member of North United Methodist Church in Manchester.

She is survived by her daughter Elaine Hadge and her husband, James Deere, of Manchester, her son, Steven Hadge and his wife, Vickie, of Tolland. She is also survived by three grandchildren, Nicholas Triano of Manchester, Wesley Hadge of Vernon, and Jeanne Shaffer of East Granby, and a great grandson, Oakley Ferguson of East Granby. She was predeceased by her husband, Mitchell.

The family would like to express heartfelt gratitude and thanks to the staffs of Governor's House in Simsbury, The Residence at Ferry Park in Rocky Hill, and The Residence at South Windsor Farms for the loving care they provided over the last few years of her life. Calling hours and the funeral service will be at a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to North United Methodist Church, 300 Parker Street, Manchester, CT 06042 or Brooksville United Methodist Church, PO Box 34, Brooksville, ME 04617. For online condolences, please visit www.tierneyfuneralhome.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Simonetti, Mildred R. (Bonamie)



ROCKY HILL AND WESTPORT: Mildred R. "Millie" (Bonamie) Simonetti, 86, of Rocky Hill died peacefully at home on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Sergio Simonetti.

Millie was born on September 6, 1935 in Paterson, New Jersey, the daughter of David

and Rose Bonamie.

She and her husband resided in Westport where they made their home and raised their family. She worked as a legal secretary with the law firm of Gunn, Godfrey and Allison. She was a member of St. Luke's Church in Westport. Her favorite thing was family, especially spending time with her grandchildren.

She is survived by her children Cara Malicki and her husband Brad of Rocky Hill and Mark Simonetti (and his wife Judith of Easton, as well as her four beloved grandchildren, Brad Malicki Jr., Brian Malicki, Mia Simonetti and Alexander Simonetti.

In addition to her husband, Millie is predeceased by her son, David Simonetti.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, January 22, at 11:00am at St. Luke's Church, 49 North Turkey Hill Road, Westport, Connecticut. Immediately following the Mass, she will be laid to rest next to her husband, Sergio, in the family plot in Assumption Green Farms Cemetery, 73 Green Farms Road, Westport.

Donations in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 825 Brook Street, Rocky Hill CT 06067 or www.cancer.org.

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Polakewitz, Gregory



Gregory Polakewitz, 76, of West Hartford CT, passed away unexpectedly on January 14 at Hartford Hospital after falling ill.

Raised in Salem CT, Greg spent his childhood in Colchester and had many fond memories, such as drag racing his corvettes with childhood friends on Parum

Rd and shooting skeet with team spacemen for the Colchester Fish and Game Club, where he was a member for over 50 years. Big in stature but soft-spoken and warm-hearted, Greg was always there to lend a hand to any who called. An avid outdoorsman, passionate gardener, and dedicated maker of all things, Greg was always in his glory working with his hands and enjoying life's simple pleasures, sometimes enhanced with a good glass of scotch. He was never more content than when watching a good western with his sidekick and norwich terrier, Ernie.

When Greg wasn't ripping out stumps or refinishing an old piece of furniture, he worked as a foreman for the IBEW local 42 for 30 years. His career journey as a linesman began while serving as a field communications crmn in the US Army in Vietnam from 1965-69.

Greg spent the last 30 years living in West Hartford, married to his childhood sweetheart, Linda James Abel and is survived by his stepchildren Michelle Grenier and Jonathan Abel, Son in Law Troy Grenier, Grandchildren Brandon, and Britney, Sister Claudia Hoskins, and nephew Sean.

While there is no service scheduled at this time, we will be celebrating Greg's life at Lake Hayward this summer with family and friends. Contact Linda for more information.

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Major, Joseph C



Joseph C. Major 86 of Mansfield Ct. Passed away on January 16,2022.Joseph C.Major is survived by his wife of 62 years Marcia Major.Joseph C. Major is survived by his 3 sons.Sandor Major and his wife Sherry Major of willimantic Ct.Steven Major of Mansfield Ct.Joseph Major Jr.of Willimantic Ct.6 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren a sister who resides in Hungary,various nieces and nephews and his beloved dog Buddy.A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

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Jewett, Nancy



Nancy Alderman Jewett, 83, of Farmington, widow of James R. Jewett, died at home on Monday, January 17, 2022. Born February 14, 1938 in Hartford, she was the daughter of Arthur R. Alderman and Ula B. Alderman.

Nancy grew up and lived in Burlington for many years; she was a graduate

of Burlington Consolidated School, Farmington High School class of 1956, and received BA degree from the University of Connecticut in 1960. After graduating she worked as a medical technologist prior to marriage, and later worked part-time while raising her family. After retiring with James in 1986 they moved to Groton CT. She moved to Brookdale Gables in Farmington in 2015.

Nancy was an ardent sports fan, enjoyed birdwatching, fishing, reading, and playing cards with friends. At Brookdale Gables she was a very active member of the community and was President of the Resident Council. Nancy is survived by her daughter, Karen Jewett of New York City, her son Frederick Jewett and his wife Miriam Jewett of Plainville Ct, and grandchildren Ashlea Jewett of Florida and Taylor Jewett of Arizona, as well as her brother Richard Alderman of Vermont.

Besides her husband, she was predeceased by her brother, Leonard Alderman. Funeral services will be held Saturday, January 22, 2022, at 1:00 pm in the Ahern Funeral Home, 111 Main Street Rt. 4, Unionville, with Rev. Joseph M. Tobin officiating. Burial will follow at Center Cemetery, Burlington. Donations can be made to the Burlington Public Library (34 Library Lane, Burlington CT 06013) or the American Cancer Society.

To send online condolences to the family, please visit www.ahernfuneralhome.com

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Settembri, Ralph



Ralph (Pop) Albert Settembri, 96, passed away on January 1, 2022 after a brief illness. Born in Meriden, CT in 1925, he was the son of Dominic and Elizabeth Settembri. Ralph was predeceased by two sons, Christopher P. Settembri and Donald Riordan; a grandson, Christopher A. Settembri; two brothers, Salvatore and

Francis Settembri; four sisters, Theresa, Catherine, Jeanette, and Mary.

Ralph proudly served in the Navy during WWII. After his honorable discharge, he had many jobs before he finally settled in at The Hartford Courant in the circulation department for 25 years, until he retired in 1987. He enjoyed his retirement traveling, volunteering, dancing, gardening and spending time with his family, especially his grand and great-grandchildren. His last two years were spent living at Village Gate in Farmington where he enjoyed various activities and made many new friends.

Ralph is survived by two daughters, Robin (and Brian) Coffey of Farmington and April (and Buzz) Dube of East Granby, as well as two stepchildren, Lorna Mazzaferro of Wethersfield and William Riordan of New Britain. He is survived by ten grandchildren, Emily Ellenberg-Settembri; Katrina and Jacob Coffey; Olivia, Sabrina, and Summer Settembri; Ivana, Megan, and Robert Mazzaferro; Jeramie Riordan. Additionally, Ralph is survived by three great-grandchildren, Jeramie Riordan, Jr.; Evangeline and Arlo Boehm. He also had many nieces and nephews.

Due to COVID, no funeral or memorial service is immediately planned. The family will notify loved ones in the future when a memorial is scheduled.

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Kulak, Judith A.(Obadowski)



Judith (Obadowski) Kulak, 75, of Bristol, died peacefully on Friday, Jan. 14, 2022, with her husband and her son by her side. She was the beloved wife of David M. Kulak for 53 years. Born and raised in New Britain, daughter of the late Stanley and Helen (Hanulak) Obadowski, she was a long-time resident of Bristol. Judy retired from Webster Bank

after 27 years of employment. She loved trips to the casinos, especially the Tropicana in Atlantic City, and spending time at the Connecticut shoreline with her family.

A loving and devoted mother and grandmother, she leaves her son Michael Kulak and his wife Meghan of Bristol; and two granddaughters Emma and Grace. She also leaves two sisters, Eileen Maciag and husband Tom of Berlin, and Diane Kowalczyk and husband Tom of Unionville, her sisters-in-law Julie Voight and husband Mark of Bristol, and Marcia Sweeney of Glastonbury; several nieces, nephews, cousins and their families; as well as her dearest friends Linda and Paul Aparo of Bristol. She was predeceased by her son David E. Kulak, and her brother Bill Obadowski.

Due to COVID-19, her funeral service will be held at a later date. She will be laid to rest at Sacred Heart Cemetery, New Britain.

Memorial donations may be made to ALS, www.als.org/ donate, in honor of David E. Kulak.

Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Burritt Hill, 332 Burritt St., New Britain, is serving the family. To share your sorrow please visit us at www.duksa.net.



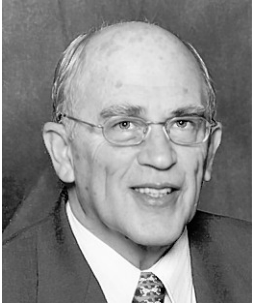
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Quicquaro, Jr., Carlo

Carlo Quicquaro, Jr. passed away on January 11, 2022. A Graveside Service Honoring Carlo's Life will be held at 1:30P.M. on Friday, January 21, 2022 at St. Mary Cemetery, 1309 Stanley St, New Britain, CT 06051. Share a condolence or a special memory of Carlo at www.luddyandpetersonfh.com.

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Chapman, David N.



David N. Chapman, 87, of South Windsor, beloved husband of Mabel Ann Randall Chapman died peacefully at home on Sunday, January 16, 2022, surrounded by his family. David was born in Pittsfield, MA on May 21, 1934, son of the late Edward H. and Erma E. (Palmer) Chapman. He grew up in Lenox, MA and was a graduate of Lenox High School in 1952. He went on to graduate



from the Wentworth Institute in Boston in 1955 and would then go on to serve in the U.S. Army. Upon returning from his service, he met and married the love of his life,

Mabel Ann Randall. They were married on October 4, 1958. They began their life together in married housing on the campus of Michigan State University, where David was enrolled to complete his bachelor's degree which he earned in 1961. Together they relocated to CT and settled in South Windsor. David worked for Pratt & Whitney for over 20 years, before taking a job as an internal auditor with the state of Connecticut in 1987. David retired from the state of Connecticut after 10 years of service. He was an active member of the First Congregational Church in South Windsor, where he served as a Deacon and on various committees throughout the years. He was a member of the South Windsor Super Sixties Club, Square Dance Club and Couples Club. He loved the outdoors and had a passion for downhill skiing. He was excited to be a member of the 70+ ski club. He loved spending time with his family, camping, swimming, beach days, the circus, and travel. He had a close group of friends that gathered for Friday night dinners, summer vacations at Wells Beach and traveling the world. He saw 47 of the 50 states and most of Europe. Dave rode with the Connecticut Governor's Horse Guard – First Company. He was proud to have been a member of the Over 10 Gallon Blood Doner Club. Along with his wife Mabel Ann of South Windsor he leaves his daughters, Tamara Lerro and her husband Eric Quinn of Dayville, and Nicole Fisher of Manchester; his sister, Diane Durgin of Lenox, MA; his grandchildren, Sara Murdock and her husband Nick of Woodstock, Erika Lerro of Charleston, SC, Kevin Fisher of Sherman Oaks , CA, Ryan Fisher of Coventry, CT , and Jessica Lerro of Toronto, Canada; and his great grandchildren, Landon, Owen, Avery, and River. He was predeceased by his brother, Edward Chapman; his grandson, Michael Lerro; and his son-in-law, Russell Fisher. His family will receive friends on Sunday, January 23, 2022, from 2 – 4 p.m., at the Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home, 419 Buckland Rd., South Windsor. A prayer service will follow at 4 p.m. Burial will be private at the request of his family. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Shriners Hospitals for Children, or First Congregational Church, 993 Main Street, South Windsor, CT. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Lazich, Lenore R.



On Tuesday, January 18, 2022, Lenore Ruth (Baylis) Lazich of Simsbury, CT began her journey into eternal peace. She was 91 years old.

Lenore was born in Flushing, NY, January 22, 1930, to Clarence Henry Baylis and Ruth Mary (Puff) Baylis. Lenore had one younger sibling, her brother Kenneth C. Baylis who predeceased her.

Lenore attended Jamaica Queens High School and pursued secretarial skills at Queens College. Her first job as an adult took her into New York City via the subway, daily. She later married Charles David Currie (deceased), and they had four children. Lenore enjoyed summers at the beach on Long Island, tennis, golf, and travel. She settled in Connecticut with her new family, living in Norwalk, Simsbury, and Suffield.

As well as raising a family of four girls, Lenore had various careers over the years. She was employed by Szabo Food Services, The Sheraton Hotel Chain, and finally Gifts of Love in Avon, CT. Later in life, Lenore married John Lazich (deceased). They spent many happy years residing in Suffield, Granby and Simsbury. Her most recent place of residence was McClean Retirement Community.

Lenore leaves four children, Ruth Currie Huggard of Granby, CT, Deborah Worth of Aiken, SC, Diane Niland of Mocksville, NC, and Mary Ellen Groskritz, of Castleton, VT. Lenore had eight grandchildren, as well as three great grandchildren.

A service will be available remotely through the Hayes-Huling & Carmon Funeral Home of Granby website at 3PM on Saturday, January 22, 2022 to anyone interested in attending. To view the service, please visit Lenore's obituary page on the Carmon Funeral Homes website and click the link in the Events section. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to Gifts of Love, 34 East Main Street, Avon, CT 06001. To share a memory or condolence message with Lenore's family, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Hiltz, William S.

William S. Hiltz, 85, of Kensington, passed away Sunday, January 16, 2022 at Jefferson House in Newington. He was born in Hartford to the late William Z. and Myrtle Wentzel Hiltz. Bill was the beloved husband of Vivian Cruze Hiltz for over 59 years. He was a longtime resident, over 30 years of Newington before moving to Kensington, 27 years ago. Bill moved with his parents from Hartford to Weathersfield where he graduated W.H.S. Class of 1954. He attended UCONN for one year before going into business for himself. Bill's Belin Esso on Berlin Tpke operated various service stations and a bowling alley, Washington Lanes in Hartford. He finally settled down to one business in Kensington. Bill was predeceased by his parents and his sister, Joan Hiltz Dubiski. He was a member of the Weathersfield Game Club, Glastonbury Elks and the Newington Sequin Lodge.

The family will receive relatives and friends for Calling Hours, Sunday, January 23, 2022 from 2pm to 4pm at Rose Hill Funeral Home, 580 Elm St. Rocky Hill. Please share online expressions of sympathy, memories or photo tribute at www.rosehillfuneralhomes.com

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Rd. Newington, CT 06111 or Berlin Animal Control 600 Christian Ln. Berlin, CT 06037.

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OBITUARIES

Comstock, Elizabeth (Betty) (Ostrout)

Elizabeth M (Ostrout-Randall) Comstock, wife of the late Arthur L Comstock, passed away on January 15, 2022 in Sebring, FL. Born in North Brookfield, MA on May 16, 1941, daughter of the late Leonard Ostrout and Mary (Miner) Ostrout. She was retired from Industrial Risk Insurers and enjoyed her employment at Jo-Di's Sound Centers for several years. She is survived by three children: Cathy Welch and her husband James of Sebring, FL; Theresa Bailey and her husband Dan of Glenburn, ME; Chris Randall and his wife Lynn of West Hartford, two step-daughters, Laurie Fearon of Glenburn, ME and Cindy Campbell of Windsor Locks. A brother, Thomas Ostrout of Inverness, FL and a sister-in-law, Alice Staskauskas and her husband Ed of Waterbury CT. She also leaves 7 grandchildren, 9 step-grandchildren, 2 great granddaughters and 10 step-great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by three brothers, George, Charles and Joseph Ostrout; a step-daughter Arlene Reardon and step-grandson. Private services are at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours. Donations can be made to a charity of your choice.

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Mahoney, Natalie J.

Natalie J. Mahoney, 93, of Suffield, beloved wife of the late Raymond J. Mahoney passed away on Friday, January 14, 2022. Born October 12, 1928 in Springfield, MA, she was the daughter of the late Sidney K. Jones and Anna Louise (Evans) Jones. She lived in Suffield most of her life. Natalie attended Boston University, earning an associate of arts degree. She also attended UCONN, where she earned a bachelor's degree in business. Natalie was an active member of First Church of Christ, Suffield, where her pies were a renowned item. As well as being an excellent craftsperson with knitting and crochet Natalie had worked for many years with the Literacy Volunteers. She is survived by her three children, James Mahoney and his wife Barbara of Ipswich, MA, Ann Berry and her husband, Tad of Scarborough, ME, and Martha Mahoney of Boston, MA; two grandchildren, Nicholas Berry and his wife Rachel and Sean Mahoney; two great-grandchildren, Olivia and Sophia Berry; and her much loved nieces and nephews. There will be a memorial service scheduled at a future date at First Church of Christ, Suffield and burial will be in West Suffield Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Kent Memorial Library, 50 N. Main St, Suffield, CT 06078. Nicholson & Carmon Funeral Home has care of arrangements. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Koistinen, Irene T. (Toper)



Irene Toper Koistinen passed away Saturday, January 15, 2022, surrounded by the loved ones she devoted her life to. Born September 29, 1934, to her beloved father John and Viola Toper. After graduating from Killingly High School in 1952 she began her career as a telephone operator for SNET.

Irene was predeceased by her husband Paul, her parents, Viola and John Toper, and her brother John Toper, a sister Helen Gaudreau, and a niece Donna Robinson. She is survived by her brother Richard Toper (Lucy) of Brooklyn, CT, a son Robert Koistinen (Kimberlee) of Suffield, CT, and a daughter Susan Santabarbara (Ralph) of Windsor Locks, CT, grandchildren Katie Hastings (Rick) of East Granby, CT, Michael and Kristy Koistinen of Suffield, CT, Louis and Donna Santabarbara of Windsor Locks, CT, great grandchildren Tobin and Delaney Hastings of East Granby, CT, and several nieces and nephews. Irene dedicated her life to instilling the importance of family in her children and grandchildren, and the impact of her message will continue to guide us for generations. The family would like to offer a special thanks to the nurses at Masonic Care Hospice for their guidance and support. Irene's burial will be at St. Mary's cemetery in Windsor Locks at the convenience of the family. Service for Irene will be private with burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Windsor Locks. Browne Memorial Chapels has been entrusted with her arrangements. To leave an online condolence message for the family and a full obituary visit: www.brownememorialchapels.com.

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Zils, John P.



John Paul Zils, 80, of Bristol, passed away on Monday, January 17, 2022 at UCONN Medical Center. He was born on October 19, 1941 in Bristol, son of the late Albert and Helen (Case) Zils. John graduated from Bristol High School in 1959. After high school he served in the US Marine Corp from 1960 until 1963, where he was an expert rifleman. He

was a member of the Bristol Fish and Game Club and the American Legion. John enjoyed fishing, hunting, bowling and skeet shooting. His children and grandchildren were the apples of his eye. He was always imparting his wisdom and corny sayings. John also served as an auxiliary CT State Police Trooper for four years. Later he was a certified welder, tool and die maker and locksmith. John is survived by his devoted and loving wife Patricia M. (Williams) Zils of 54 years; his three daughters all of Bristol Kelly Zils, Tracy Bielert and her husband Dan, Jodi Gagne and her husband Steve; his seven grandchildren Ashley Bielert, Hayley Drzewiecki, Morgan Bielert, Marisa Drzewiecki, Jalen Drzewiecki, Carson Gagne, Damon Gagne; his brother Albert Zils and his wife Donna and several nieces, nephews and cousins. Calling hours will be held at O'Brien Funeral Home, 24 Lincoln Ave., Bristol on Friday, January 21, 2022 from 5PM until 7PM. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at 10AM at St. Matthew Church, 120 Church Ave, Bristol. Friends and family are invited to the funeral home starting at 9AM. Entombment and military honors will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery, Bristol. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, <https://fidelco.org>. To leave an online message of condolence, share a memory or a photo, please visit John's tribute page at www.O'Brien-FuneralHome.com.



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Palmer, Vera Louise (Scarlett)



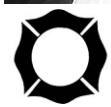
Vera Louise Scarlett Palmer, 98, of Windsor, affectionately known at "Mama" and "Sister Mama," beloved wife for over 60 years of the late Selvin Palmer, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at St. Francis Hospital. Born in Watt Town, St. Ann, Jamaica, West Indies on April 15, 1923, daughter of the late Josephus Scarlett and Catherine (Fowler) Guy, she was raised in Jamaica and had worked at Albert Town High School before migrating from Jamaica to the United States and settling Windsor in 1991. While living in Connecticut, Vera worked as a certified nurse's aide until her retirement. Most of all, she will be remembered for the loving care that she took of her family. She enjoyed cooking for holidays and family get-togethers, and everyone always looked forward to her traditional West Indian specialties. A devout Christian throughout her life, Vera most recently had worshiped at Destiny Church in Bloomfield with her daughter. She leaves to mourn her passing, ten children, Carmen Solomon of Windsor, Isolyn Palmer of Trelawny, Jamaica, Burkley Palmer and his wife Annette of East Hartford, Gifton Palmer of Trelawny, Jamaica, Herma Turner of Windsor, Erroll Palmer of Windsor, Ann Martin and her husband Leroy of Windsor, Doreth Callwood and her husband Richard of Manchester, Reva Thelwell of Windsor, and Beverly Palmer and her husband Hayton of Windsor; a stepson, Lloyd Palmer of St. Catherine, Jamaica; a stepdaughter, Daphney Fyffe of England; 50 grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Besides her parents and her husband, she was predeceased three brothers, Frank Scarlett, Junior Guy, and T-Man Scarlett; and a sister, Herma "Blossom" Williams. Her family will receive friends on Saturday, January 22, 10-11 a.m., followed by a Homegoing Service at 11 a.m., at The Lodge Community Chapel, 130 Deerfield Rd., Windsor. Burial will be in the Christ Tabernacle - United Pentecostal Church Cemetery in Trelawny, Jamaica on February 2, 2022. The family has entrusted the Carmon Windsor Funeral Home with the arrangements. For online condolences or to view the service live or after, Saturday, January 22nd at 11 a.m., please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

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Marrocco, Benito



Benito (Benny) Marrocco, 87, of Farmington, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 surrounded by his family. He was born on January 20, 1934 in Lenola, Italy, son of the late Giuseppe and Maria Colle (Lauretti) Marrocco.

He was predeceased by two wives, Palma (Quinto) Marrocco and Louise (Difusco) Marrocco. He is survived by four children: Joseph Marrocco and wife Rosalba, MariaLina Marrocco, Peter Marrocco and fiancé Cathy Breau, Rosanne Papaleo and husband Bill; four grandchildren: Marilyn Finkelstein and husband Adam, Cristina Marrocco, Dylan Papaleo, and Julia Papaleo; 2 great-grandchildren, Maya and Max Finkelstein.

He immigrated to America at the age of 18 and lived with relatives while he worked to establish his life in this country. One of his first jobs was working as caretaker for the Graves family in Farmington who treated him like a son and taught him English. He continued as caretaker for the property as a second job for over 60 years as it was taken over by the Deutsch family. Benny worked by trade as an oil-burner technician for over 50 years for Frank Cadwell/Quinoco Corporation where he earned the nickname Dr. Benny from the late Vincent DiPietro as he could solve any burner related issue in town.

He served as a Farmington Volunteer Firefighter for over 51 years and earned numerous awards during his tenure. He was a highly respected community member and will be missed by many who loved him dearly. He was a devoted member and volunteer of St. Patrick Church in Farmington. Benny enjoyed gardening, his greenhouse, his fig trees, cooking, baking and spending time with family and friends.

Friends may call at The Ahern Funeral Home, 111 Main St. Rt. 4 Unionville, on Friday January 21 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Funeral procession from the Ahern Funeral home Saturday, January 22 at 9:00 am followed by the Funeral Liturgy in the Church of St. Mary Star of the Sea, Main St Unionville at 10:00 am. Burial will follow in the family plot at Riverside Cemetery, Farmington. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Farmington Volunteer Fire Department, 76 Main Street, Farmington, CT 06032 or The House of Bread, 1453 Main Street Hartford, CT 06120. To send online condolences to the family, please visit www.ahernfuneralhome.com

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Dirrigl, Michael J.



Michael J. Dirrigl, of Farmington, died Saturday (Jan. 15, 2022) at the Newington Rapid Rehab Recovery Center in Newington, after a long battle with esophageal cancer. Born in New Britain, on July 21, 1937, the son of the late John (Hans) and Theresa (Windl) Dirrigl, he was raised in New Britain and graduated from New Britain High School and earned both

his BS and MBA from the University of Hartford. For many years, he worked in various management positions at Torin Manufacturing in Torrington, as VP of Operations at PGM Corporation of Rochester, NY and as Vice President of manufacturing Operations at Nidec Corporation in Torrington. He also served in the U.S. Army Infantry and Connecticut National Guard, Company A, 1st Battalion, 169th Infantry Division. His dedication to the University of Hartford has motivated him to establish the Dirrigl Family Endowed Scholarship Fund, upon his death. In addition to his work life, Mike had a great passion and love for raising and caring for his Dobermans. Mike is survived by three nieces: Sandra (Dirrigl) Baldwin of Wethersfield, Karen (Dirrigl) Bean of Wethersfield and Debra (Dirrigl) Baldwin of Woodbury along with their husbands and children. He was predeceased by brother, John Dirrigl and sister-in-law, Irene (Grzeszczyk) Dirrigl. Family and friends are invited to a Mass of Christian Burial at Divine Providence Parish (St. Peter Church) 98 Franklin Sq. New Britain Saturday (Jan. 22, 2022) at 10:00 AM. Burial will follow in St. Mary Cemetery, New Britain. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to American Cancer Society, 111 Founders Plaza 2nd Floor, East Hartford, CT 06108. To send a condolence, please visit www.FarrellFuneralHome.com.

FARRELL
FUNERAL HOME

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IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory Of
JOAN D KELSEY



5/1/1949 - 1/20/2020

It has been two years since we saw your loving smile. The memories live strong within us and in silence. Your Spirit is felt where you once walked, leaving behind your signature message of hope-filled wishes. We know you are tending to the most luscious gardens of blooms and butterflies in heaven, keeping watch from above.

Your loving husband Don and Family

In Loving Memory Of
ANITA T. MONAHAN



1/20/1936-8/02/2017



Happy Birthday Mom!

While angels sing the Happy Birthday song to you on this your special day.

We share happy memories with each other and smiles now fill our hearts.

And so we celebrate and remember your Birthday Mom with love and wishes to you in Heaven above.

Love Always, Dad, Mike, Eddie Jr., Sheryl and Family



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‘Good for consumers’ Lamont, Access Health CT launch health insurance broker training program

By Eliza Fawcett
Hartford Courant

Through a new broker training program, Connecticut’s health insurance exchange is aiming to diversify the ranks of health insurance brokers and reduce the number of uninsured residents in communities across the state. The newly formed Broker Academy will “create a pathway for

Connecticut residents who live in historically underserved communities to become licensed health insurance brokers,” James Michel, the CEO of Access Health CT, said during a press conference Wednesday. “Insurance is complicated enough; we all know that,” said Andrew Mais, Connecticut’s insurance commissioner. “Having people in the community to explain

insurance is good for consumers.” Through the Broker Academy, a cohort of 100 candidates will receive free training for the health insurance licensing process, mentorship from experienced brokers, waived fees for licensing exams and a free laptop, said Tammy Hendricks, Access Health CT’s director of health equity and outreach. For the first year of the program,

candidates must be residents of the Greater Hartford, Bridgeport and New Haven areas, though officials said that they aim to expand the program to other cities, including Waterbury and Danbury, in coming years. The first three geographic areas were selected because they have the highest rates of uninsured residents in the state, Michel said. “We’ve learned the hard way, I

think this last couple years, what disparities mean and what it means when you don’t have health insurance, what it means when you don’t get access to a test or a vaccine in this period of COVID,” Gov. Ned Lamont said. “That doesn’t just put you at risk; it puts your community at risk,” he said. “So that’s why we’re making

Turn to Program, Page 2



Drenda Stanley visits the Mather Street memorial for Kendall Fair, 22, where Fair was shot and killed in Hartford’s first homicide of the year. “I lost a child, and I want his mom to know he’s an angel,” said Stanley, who put up a cardboard sign at the memorial. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Man dies, 2 others wounded in shootings minutes apart

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

Two bursts of gunfire in broad daylight Tuesday wounded three people in Hartford, one fatally, police said. The deadly shooting was the capital city’s first homicide of the year. Police identified the man who died as Kendall Fair, of Warren Terrace in West Hartford. He was 22 years old. According to police, the shootings happened near each other, minutes apart, and appear to be connected. About 1:50 p.m., officers

responded to the 600 block of Albany Avenue after getting an alert from the ShotSpotter gunshot detection system. As officers headed to the scene, police said they got a second alert about another shooting in the 100 block of Mather Street, two minutes away. Officers who arrived at the first scene found no victim, but discovered signs of gunfire outside in the upper 500 block of Albany Avenue, police said. Those who went to Mather Street found an unresponsive man suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. The man, later identified as Fair, was taken to Saint Francis Hospi-

tal, where he was pronounced dead, according to police. In the meantime, two people with gunshot wounds showed up at Saint Francis. Police said one, a man in his 40s, was wounded in the gunfire on Albany Avenue. Investigators believe the other, a man in his 20s, was wounded when he was with Fair during the fatal shooting on Mather Street, Lt. Aaron Boisvert said. Anyone with information about the shootings is asked to call the Hartford police tip line at 860-722-8477 (TIPS). Fair, who had drug convictions on his record, survived being shot

three different times, twice in 2018 and a third time during a shootout on Huntington Street in Hartford Sept. 7, 2020, federal court documents show. Officials said he was on federal supervised release at the time of his death. The deadly shooting Tuesday was the first homicide of the year in Hartford. The year 2021 finished with 35 homicides, a 40% increase over 2020’s total and one of the highest homicide rates in more than a decade. Christine Dempsey can be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.

CVS Health to offer free rides

Program is open to eligible Hartford area residents for doctor visits and workforce training programs

By Kenneth R. Gosselin
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — CVS Health Corp., the pharmacy and health insurance giant, said Wednesday it will launch a pilot program in the Hartford area on Feb. 1 that will provide free rides to eligible residents for doctor visits, workforce development or educational programs. CVS has partnered with Uber Health, Uber’s health care division, to provide the rides to clients of the Chrysalis Center, the Hartford-based nonprofit that provides social services. The rides will be coordinated through Chrysalis Center and it is expected that as many as 1,500 residents could be eligible. Free rides would be provided to such services as vaccination appointments, workforce training programs and medical visits. Initially, Chrysalis Center will be given \$25,000 in the program and clients will be given vouchers to pay for the rides. When the pilot ends, the program will be evaluated for additional funding. In addition to Hartford, the transportation program is being piloted in Atlanta and Columbus, Ohio and is expected to be expanded into more cities later this year. CVS, the parent of Hartford-based health insurer Aetna Inc., said the pilot program is part of its “Health Zones” initiative that seeks to reduce health care inequities in communities where residents don’t have easy access to medical care.

Turn to Rides, Page 2

CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

Weekly COVID-19 test positivity rate at 18.22%

Lamont says recent hospitalization decline ‘a really good thing’

By Eliza Fawcett
Hartford Courant

Connecticut’s number of COVID-19 hospitalizations and its weekly test positivity rate declined again

on Wednesday, signaling a further easing of the state’s omicron surge. “Hospitalizations are down, so that’s a really good thing,” Gov. Ned Lamont said during a press briefing Wednesday afternoon. After spiking to a 20-month high of 1,939 hospitalizations last week, the metric has begun to subside. Lamont emphasized that the reduction of roughly 150 hospi-

talized patients in the last week “takes a lot of pressure off” of overburdened hospital systems. As Connecticut’s metrics continue to fall, Lamont noted — as health experts in the state have — that additional COVID-19 variants may emerge, but it is possible that they will not result in major surges of cases and hospitalizations. “I’m sure that omicron is not the

last variant that we’re going to see,” he said. “But it may be the last big scare that we have.”

Cases and positivity rate

Connecticut on Wednesday reported 4,745 new COVID-19 cases out of 28,663 tests adminis-

tered, for a daily positivity rate of 16.55%. The state’s seven-day positivity rate now stands at 18.22%, a slight decline from Tuesday. All eight Connecticut counties are still recording “high” levels of COVID-19 transmission as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. With this

Turn to COVID-19, Page 2

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CONNECTICUT

Pedestrian killed in East Hartford identified

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

A pedestrian who died after he was hit by a car in East Hartford last week was identified as a man from Yorktown Heights, New York, police said Wednesday. Gregory Yarmarkov, 37, was struck Thursday about 9:40 p.m. at 842 Burnside Ave. near East Hartford Middle School, police said. The driver remained at the scene, police said. Police continue to investigate, department spokesman Deputy Chief Josh Litwin said.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com

Rides

from Page 1

“By working with Hartford-based organizations and Uber Health, we will address key social determinants of health, including transportation, giving people in need access to health care services so they can live healthier lives and access to jobs and educational programs that can help them reach their full potential,” said Eileen Howard Boone, senior vice president of corporate social responsibility and philanthropy. The push to create Health Zones comes as CVS and other health care companies and insurers are challenged to do something about the skyrocketing cost of health care across the country. The Health Zones initiative targets what CVS sees as the six social “determinants” of better health: housing, education, access to food, labor, transportation and health care. Since 2013, CVS said it has invested \$14.8 million in affordable housing in Hartford, and the health zones provide “wraparound services” where people can find healthful food and jobs along with health care. In addition to Chrysalis Center, the Health Zones initiative will work on separate with other community-based organizations in Hartford such as the Charter Oak Health Center, Connecticut Food Bank/Foodshare, KNOX and YWCA Hartford.

Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at kgosselin@courant.com.



CVS Health is piloting a transportation program with Uber Health to give eligible Hartford-area residents rides to doctor appointments and workforce training. ELISE AMENDOLA/AP



Connecticut state Sen. Cathy Osten supports funding increases for nonprofit agencies. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Mandatory funding increases proposed for struggling state nonprofit agencies

Associated Press

HARTFORD — With many nonprofit agencies in Connecticut struggling to both attract and retain workers, the top Senate Democrat on the General Assembly’s budget-writing committee said Tuesday she plans to pursue legislation this session that would mandate regular increases in state funding so the entities can pay higher salaries. State Sen. Cathy Osten, D-Sprague, co-chair of the Appropriations Committee, said she

supports having 4% to 6% annual increases in funding over the next five years “codified” in the state budget. While she acknowledged future legislatures cannot be forced to provide regular funding increases, Osten said lawmakers this year “can certainly put it in statute” to make it clear a larger financial commitment is needed. “We are dealing with a professional group of workers in the nonprofit world who actually deserve to make enough money to live each and every day,” she said. On average, about 18% of posi-

tions at nonprofit agencies across Connecticut are currently open, according to a survey released Tuesday by The Alliance, which represents organizations that provide many state services, everything from mental health services to day programs for people with disabilities. Meanwhile, 59% of the agencies said they have waiting lists for their programs. Last year, a 4% funding increase was included in the state budget for private nonprofit agencies. However, Gian-Carl Casa, president and CEO of The Alliance, said

while that funding was helpful, it was eaten up by a 6% rate of inflation. “That means that nonprofits are in crisis,” Casa said. “Their staff, exhausted from nearly two years of frontline work during a global pandemic, have been leaving for better paying jobs with less stress,” he said. “And providers, who are already underfunded, have been struggling to pay rising prices for everything that they rent or purchase.” The General Assembly is scheduled to convene Feb. 9.

Program

from Page 1

this extra effort to make sure that nobody is denied the opportunity to sign up for Access Health CT.” Cesar Cortes, a health insurance broker who has agreed to work as a mentor for trainees, emphasized that the program could have a ripple effect in cities with high rates of uninsured residents. “I’m looking to create and build life-long generational benefits where our future kids can learn from our parents about the importance of having preventive services,” he said. Applications for the Broker Academy will become available Friday at AccessHealthCT.com. The program starts in June, aims to have candidates fully licensed by the end of July and will enroll them in an apprenticeship program from August through October, before open enrollment starts in November.

Eliza Fawcett can be reached at elfawcett@courant.com.



State insurance commissioner Andrew Mais says “Having people in the community to explain insurance is good for consumers”. STEPHEN SINGER/HARTFORD COURANT

COVID-19

from Page 1

level of transmission, the CDC advises people to wear a mask in public indoor settings.

Hospitalizations

As of Wednesday, Connecticut had 1,805 people hospitalized with COVID-19, a decrease of 14 individuals since Tuesday and the lowest the metric has been since Jan. 6. Hospital officials say some of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 were admitted for reasons other than the virus before testing positive upon arrival, but emphasize that a majority have significant COVID-19 symptoms. According to the state, 67.9% of people hospitalized with COVID-19 are not fully vaccinated. Hospital officials say the rate is significantly higher when considering only patients with severe symptoms.

Deaths

Connecticut reports COVID-19 deaths on Thursdays. Last week, the state reported 161 deaths in the week leading to Thursday, bringing its total during the pandemic to 9,442. As COVID-19 cases and hospital-

izations have surged in Connecticut over recent weeks, deaths have risen but remain far below levels recorded last winter. Unvaccinated people in Connecticut have been about 19 times as likely to die from COVID-19 in recent weeks as those who are vaccinated, according to state numbers. The United States has now recorded 854,576 COVID-19 deaths, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. Vaccinations As of Wednesday, 91.3% of all Connecticut residents and 95% of those 12 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 75.8% of all residents and 84.3% of those 12 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the CDC. Additionally, about 48.7% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents 18 or older have received a booster dose. The CDC warns that booster shots are sometimes misclassified as first doses, likely inflating the reported number of first-dose coverage and understating the true number of people who have received boosters.

Eliza Fawcett can be reached at elfawcett@courant.com.



Vernon resident Jared Freeman receives a COVID-19 vaccine boost from Vernon firefighter and EMT Chris Prue during a vaccination clinic run by the town of Vernon in December. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

CONNECTICUT

THEATER REVIEW

‘Heartless’ at Hole in the Wall a timely play of isolation

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

New Britain’s Hole in the Wall Theater — celebrating its 50th anniversary this year — has become known for audacious risks. You can see shows there that you won’t find anywhere else in the state.

Who else, for instance, would attempt Sam Shepard’s little-seen “Heartless,” which premiered in New York in 2012, five years before the Pulitzer-winning playwright’s death, and has almost no other productions since?

“Heartless,” Hole in the Wall proves, is well worth doing. There’s no such thing as a bad Sam Shepard play, just plays that are more maddening than others. Even the oddest ones have brilliant moments.

“Heartless” also happens to be an ideal play for our isolated, fractious times. It’s a neat fit for a real-life era of fear and revolt. This is a good play to see while wearing a mask, because you may not know whether to laugh, cry or look aghast.

“Heartless” is, as most Shepard plays are, about dysfunctional relationships, deeply held secrets, violent emotional explosions and anxious revelations. Often, confessions lead to repercussions that are way worse than the original offense.

Yet while Shepard’s earlier plays are more energetic, enraged and reckless, “Heartless” is resigned and reflective. It still has the playwright’s signature wildness, absur-



Anna Petrova, left, Barbara Gallow and Keith Nelson in Sam Shepard’s “Heartless” at Hole in the Wall Theater.

dity, casual nudity and plot-busting bursts of what may seem like science fiction, but it comes from a more settled place, a different phase of life. There’s a wistfulness even when things get wacky.

Early in the play a young woman named Sally, played by Khara Hoyer, settles into what promises to be a deeply heartfelt, heart-wrenching internal monologue — only to have it abruptly interrupted by her sister Lucy barging in with a breakfast tray. Even as “Heartless” grows darker and heavier, there are silly sight gags with suitcases and open windows.

Hoyer plays the scarred Sally with a convincing disdain for anyone who enters her orbit. Kristen Bennett’s Lucy is more social

but no less sarcastic or obnoxious. Sally has a new lover twice her age, a literary scholar named Roscoe. When he declares that he teaches the works of Cervantes and Borges, it’s a big clue that Shepard will be messing with our heads a lot before the play is over. Roscoe becomes a bizarre conversation piece for the sisters and their imperious mother Mable. Keith Nelson is appropriately scruffy and subdued as this bewildered academic.

Mable (played by Barbara Gallow, who’s done some 40 shows at Hole in the Wall) gets a big build-up as someone impossible to get along with. She lives up to that characterization, but in a genteel, insidious manner.

Mable has a cryptic caregiver named Liz who hovers about

mysteriously, in the grand tradition of strong, silent Shepard characters. Shepard has no problem with using actors as both characters and as overt symbols or metaphors. Here, Liz is a sort of living wraith, a person who can’t exist in real life and who spends most of the second act washing blood off her feet. Anna Petrova, a professional model who towers over the other characters in high heels and a gleaming white outfit, is able to give Liz severity and intensity despite hardly ever speaking.

Hole in the Wall doesn’t play Shepard as fast and loud as theaters often do, but in such a small intimate space it doesn’t have to. At the small, floor-level stage, director Steven Simpson doesn’t add any big concepts or reinterpretations to

Shepard’s script. You get to appreciate the often disjointed lines for their provocative modern poetic quality.

There are no big special effects either, though some sublimely subtle lighting (designed and operated by Hilary Lang) underscores big dramatic transitions. It could be sharper and tighter, but with so many twists and turns, the pacing ceases to matter.

“Heartless” is the first show in Hole in the Wall Theater’s 2022 season. The rest of the season offers a new comedy (“The Trouble With Space Cannibals” by HITW members Bill Arnold and Scott Stephen Kelgler); a recent national small-theater hit Qui Nguyen’s “She Kills Monsters”); a classic African-American satire (“Day of Absence by Douglas Turner Ward); a much more recent African-American sociopolitical play (the intervention drama “Barbecue” by Robert O’Hara); a Shakespeare comedy (“Love’s Labour’s Lost”); and yet another dysfunctional family drama (David Auburn’s math-based “Proof”).

This is the type of theater that will comfort and enlighten us in our dark days, and lead us back into the light.

“Heartless” by Sam Shepard, directed by Steven Simpson, runs through Jan. 29 at Hole in the Wall Theater, 116 Main St., New Britain. \$25, \$20 students and seniors. hitw.org.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.



Crafty Stir, a “fusion” coffee shop with quirky menu items like spiked coffees and desserts and a \$7 1-pound donut, is the newest dining offering at Mohegan Sun casino in Uncasville. **MOHEGAN SUN/COURTESY**

Spiked coffees, 1-pound donut at Crafty Stir

A quirky new restaurant opens at Mohegan Sun

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

Crafty Stir, a “fusion” coffee shop with quirky menu items like spiked coffees and desserts and a \$7, one-pound donut, is the newest restaurant at Mohegan Sun casino in Uncasville.

Crafty Stir serves traditional breakfast items such as pastries, wraps, sandwiches, bagels, fruit parfait, yogurt, coffees, teas and hot chocolate; traditional lunch, dinner

or snack items such as Caesar salad, guacamole and hummus; and dessert items including cupcakes.

It also serves that Humongous One Pound Donut, big enough for a large party to share or for one hungry and sugar- and carb-tolerant person.

Crafty Stir also dives into the casino vibe by offering coffee beverages spiked with a variety of alcoholic boosters: Irish coffee with Jameson, Caramel Irish with Jameson and caramel schnapps, Café Caribbean with Bacardi spiced rum and amaretto, Kentucky coffee with Jim Beam Honey Whiskey, The Nutty Irishman with

Frangelico and Irish Cream and the Russian Café, with Kahlúa and Grey Goose vodka.

The Crafty Stir also offers a “barista bomb,” a pastry spiked with a pipette of alcohol of a guests’ choosing.

A craft brew created by Outer Light Brewing of Groton, On the River IPA, is offered.

Hours are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 6 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday, closed Sunday. Crafty Stir is just off the Sky Hotel lobby.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

Prison spokesman: Two more incarcerated people have died of COVID-19

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

Two more incarcerated people have died of the coronavirus, a Department of Correction spokesman said Wednesday. Both men died in the last week.

One was a 77-year-old man who had been receiving treatment at the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution’s medical isolation unit, Andrius Banevicius said.

The second was a 51-year-old man who had absconded from special parole on Sept. 23, 2020 and was returned to the Hartford Correctional Center on Oct. 29, 2021. The state did not release their names because of medical privacy laws.

The first man was taken to a local hospital for continued care for COVID-19 and other illnesses. He died Jan. 15, Banevicius said.

He had entered the Connecticut correctional system on July 31, 2018, and was in custody on \$2

million bail after being charged with murder, he said.

The second man showed symptoms of the coronavirus after he was returned to Hartford Correctional in the fall. He was taken from the Hartford facility to a local hospital for further treatment on Jan. 15, and he died Jan. 17.

His involvement with the Department of Correction dates back more than 30 years, and his special parole end date was Aug. 12, 2026, Banevicius said.

“I pray that we have passed the peak of the Omicron wave of the virus,” Commissioner Angel Quiros said. “As always, I encourage those who have not been vaccinated to get their shots.”

Since the start of the pandemic there have been 27 deaths of individuals incarcerated in Department of Correction facilities.

Christine Dempsey may be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.

Manchester police arrest man in connection to shots fired from vehicle

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

Manchester police arrested a man in connection with multiple gunshots fired from a vehicle Tuesday.

Jahzaun Clarke, 24, of Vernon, was charged with violating a protective order, police spokesman Lt. Ryan Shea said Wednesday. More charges are expected, Shea said.

No one was hurt, but Shea said Clarke was targeting a person inside a home. Officers responded at 12:06 a.m. to the area of 104 Charter Oak St. after a caller reported multiple rounds fired

from a gold Chevrolet Impala. The driver fled west on Charter Oak Street and more shots were fired from the car at the I-384 entry ramp, Shea said. He said he was not sure whether any vehicles or structures were hit.

Police pulled the Impala over on Main Street on a traffic stop late Tuesday and arrested Clarke, who was wanted on a warrant for the shooting incident, Shea said. The vehicle was not stolen, he said. Police held Clarke in lieu of \$125,000.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com

Connecticut hawk shot with arrow and BBs being treated; investigation underway

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

State conservation police are investigating the wounding of a red-tailed hawk that was discovered impaled with an arrow in Oxford.

Found in late December in the area of Thorson Road and North Mark Drive, the bird was successfully captured and treated and was being cared for by a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, according to the

state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Examination showed the hawk also had embedded BBs and an air rifle pellet. Under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act, it is illegal to take, injure, kill or harass any bird of prey. Property owners may not kill birds of prey in defense of livestock without permission.

This time of year, prey is harder to find, so hawks and other wildlife look for “easy” catches, such as backyard chickens and rabbits.

Residents should protect livestock from predation by keeping animals in secure and sturdy structures. Call and ask for help with a nuisance wildlife situation, or visit the DEEP website.

Anyone with information about the injured hawk is urged to call the state environmental conservation police 24-hour tip line at 860-424-3333.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com



This red-tailed hawk was found impaled with an arrow in Oxford in late December. **COURTESY**

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION
Town of Old Saybrook
Zoning Board of Appeals

Pursuant to the provisions of Public Act 75-86, effective May 8, 1975, notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals has rendered decisions on the following appeals heard at their Regular Meeting held on January 12, 2022. These decisions have been filed in the office of the Town Clerk, Old Saybrook, Town Hall.

21/22-11C Alan Weil seeks a variance of Par. 58.2.1 (riparian buffer setback/100' required/21.8' to pool, 15.8' to pool patio & 8' to grading/landscaping proposed) and Par 58.6 (setback Gateway Conservation Zone/100' required/21.8' to pool, 15.8' to pool patio & 8' to grading/landscaping proposed) and Par 68.1.2.B.9 (tidal wetland setback/50' required/ 21.8' to pool, 15.8' to pool patio & 8' to grading/landscaping proposed) of the Zoning Regulations to permit the renovation of an existing pool, removal of concrete patio around pool and installation of patio partially greater than 6" above existing grade with landscaping at 9 Cedar Lane, Map 16/Lot 65, Residence AA-2 District, Coastal Area Management Zone, Gateway Conservation Zone. GRANTED W/CONDITIONS/CAM APPROVED

21/22-12 Lisa & Mike Donovan seek a variance of Par 10.7.1 & 10.7.2 (non-conformity enlargement/change); Par 24.5.1 (street line setback/25' required/21.4' to Church St. & 19' to Willard Avenue Ext. proposed); Par 24.6.2 (structure coverage Gateway Conservation Zone/15% allowed/15.1% proposed) of the Zoning Regulations to permit the construction of a 264 s.f. attached garage at 70 Church Street, Map 24/Lot 25, Residence A District, Coastal Area Management Zone, Gateway Conservation Zone. GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS

Located at Old Saybrook, Connecticut this 20th day of January, 2022

Old Saybrook Zoning Board of Appeals
Charles Gadon, Chairman
1/20/2022 7127703

NOTICE OF DECISIONS
MIDDLETOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 12, 2022

Request for a G.S. 14-54 location approval for a general repair and sales of used cars at 512 – 516 Washington Street. Applicant/agent John Kiaja. G.S. 14-54 2021-1

Steven Kovach, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals
1/20/22 7127812

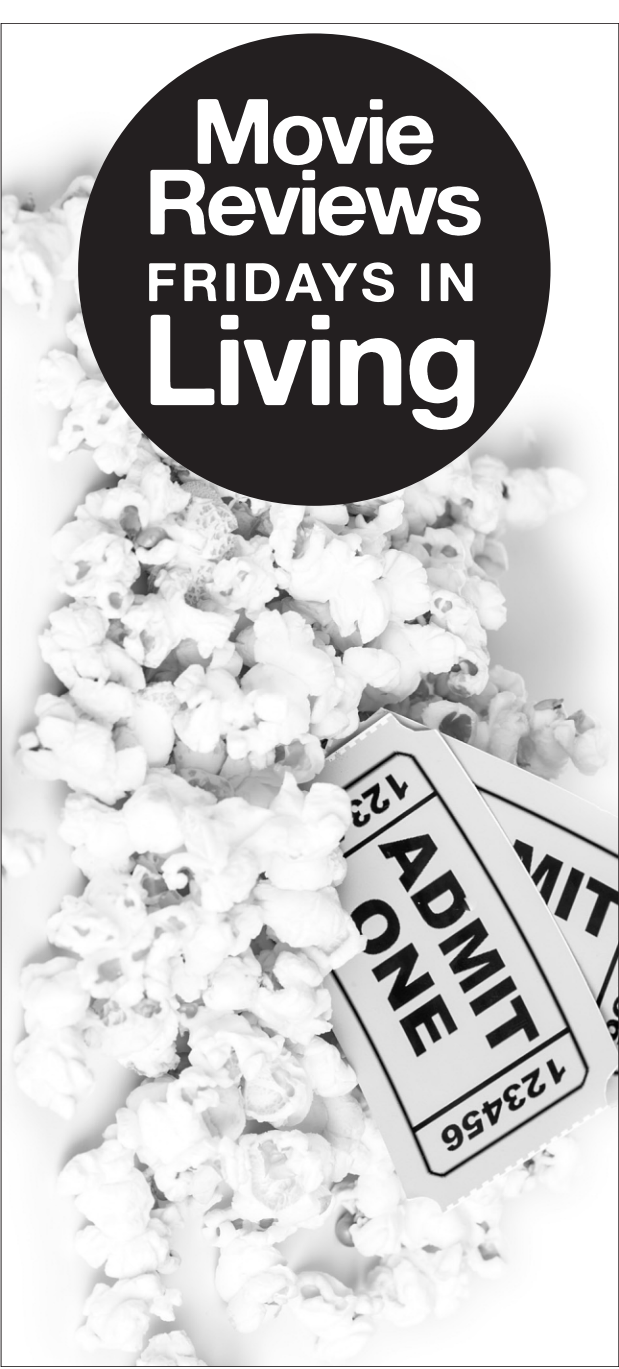
NOTICE OF DECISIONS
MIDDLETOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2022

Granted variances of Sections 21.02 for minimum lot frontage for 15 lots and for minimum front yards for 16 lots on Military Road. Applicant/agent The Middletown Housing Partnership Trust, Inc. /Attorney David E. Rosenberg. V2021-11

Steven Kovach, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals
1/20/22 7127786

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated: 578 Federal Road, Brookfield, CT 06804, January 27, 2022 at 11:00 AM. Elonda Greene unit 2247, table, bags, headboard and footboard. The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage-treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
1/13/22 & 1/20/22 7122843

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Bekah Bischoff plays Pictionary Man with her children, Henry and Ady. Bischoff developed preeclampsia and nearly died the day she delivered her son. MARTY PEARL/COURIER JOURNAL 2018

A simple test for severe condition

Blood analysis may be able to predict if a pregnant person will develop preeclampsia months before symptoms appear, potentially saving lives

By Laura Ungar
Associated Press

A blood test may one day be able to predict whether someone who is pregnant will develop a serious blood pressure disorder months before symptoms show up.

Preeclampsia happens in around 1 of 20 pregnancies, usually in the third trimester, and can cause organ damage, stroke and preterm birth. Pregnancy-related high blood pressure disorders are among the leading causes of maternal death worldwide.

Although the blood test is still being developed and won't be available for a while, doctors and parent advocates say it could someday save lives.

Bekah Bischoff, of Louisville, Kentucky, who developed preeclampsia during two pregnancies and now helps others who have had the condition, said she was diagnosed late in the third trimester both times.

While pregnant with her son Henry in 2012, she found out she had a very severe type called HELLP Syndrome at 36 weeks. He was delivered that day. She nearly died.

"Just think about all the chaos and the heartbreak and all the trauma, really, that went with it that could have been avoided if there had just been a simple test that could have been done," she said.

The experimental new test involves detecting and analyzing chemical messages — a form of RNA — from the mom, baby and placenta. It would allow doctors to spot indications of preeclampsia as early as 16 to 18 weeks into the pregnancy, before the appearance of symptoms such as high blood pressure, swelling and protein in the urine.

Research recently published in the journal Nature found that the test, being developed by the South San Francisco-based company Mirvie, can correctly identify 75% of women who go on to develop preeclampsia.

"It's often in the first trimester that a lot of the onset of the condition happens biologically," although symptoms show up late in pregnancy, said Maneesh Jain, Mirvie's CEO. Detecting preeclampsia after symptoms arise "leaves you very little time to address the challenge. And it's mostly

crisis management"

Diagnosing preeclampsia now involves testing urine for protein, measuring blood pressure and doing other tests if it's suspected. Treatment can involve bed rest, medication, monitoring at the hospital or inducing labor near the end of a pregnancy.

Earlier studies have also suggested circulating RNA could predict preeclampsia. But authors of this study looked at a large and diverse data set, analyzing RNA in 2,539 blood samples from 1,840 women in the United States, Europe and Africa to get a better sense of how a test could work. After the RNA messages were detected, a computer analyzed them for patterns.

Although the test "robustly" predicted preeclampsia in those who got it, the study said, there were also some people it predicted would get the disorder who did not.

Dr. Thomas McElrath of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, the study's senior author, hopes the test could also be used for the early detection of other pregnancy complications, such as gestational diabetes.

Scientists said Mirvie's approach reveals the underlying biology of healthy pregnancies. And by understanding what those normal RNA "profiles" look like, researchers say they can find early indications of risks for other problems when these patterns differ in particular ways.

More research is needed to look closely at how the test might detect these other conditions, they said, and to further validate the preeclampsia results.

Jain said it's too early to say when the test might be available to the public, but he may have a better idea of timing toward the end of the year.

McElrath is a scientific advisor to Mirvie and has an financial interest in the company, as do some other authors of the Nature paper. Some are inventors on patent applications covering detection or treatment of pregnancy complications. The study was paid for by Mirvie.

Dr. S. Ananth Karumanchi with Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles, who has done extensive research on preeclampsia but was not involved with the Nature study, said detecting

the condition early would allow doctors to make simple adjustments such as giving women low-dose aspirin to delay the onset of preeclampsia.

"There's no question there's a clear unmet medical need," Karumanchi said.

Looking at the data in the paper, he said, the scientists' method "appears to be better than the current sort of methods that are being used around the world." If validated by other studies, "there would be clearly a need for something like that."

Bischoff, who now works for the Preeclampsia Foundation, agreed.

When she was about five months along with her son, she said, she felt drained of energy and was gaining more weight than she thought she should be.

But when she asked people on her medical team about these sorts of problems, she recalled, she was told things were normal — like many of the other women she's met who have had preeclampsia.

A blood test, she said, "would take out that barrier of having to fight to be heard."

"Just think about all the chaos and the heartbreak and all the trauma, really, that went with it that could have been avoided if there had just been a simple test that could have been done." — Bekah Bischoff

Study finds secondhand exposure to vapor harmful to teens' lung health

By Dennis Thompson
HealthDay News

Secondhand vapor from electronic cigarettes is harmful to others, causing bronchitis symptoms and shortness of breath in young bystanders, a new study reports.

Secondhand exposure to vapor increased teens' risk of bronchitis symptoms by 40% and shortness of breath by 53%, according to findings recently published in the journal



DREAMSTIME

Thorax. The effect was even worse on people who don't vape or smoke. They were three times more

likely to develop bronchitis symptoms and twice as likely to develop wheeze or shortness of breath, the researchers found.

"Those people are really suffering much more," said lead researcher Dr. Talat Islam, assistant professor of research population and public health sciences at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. "The effect of secondhand exposure to vape was much bigger" among people who never vape or smoke.

The health effects from secondhand vapor are similar in magnitude to those associated with secondhand smoking, and should prompt more U.S. locations to ban vaping in public places, Islam and his colleagues concluded.

Sixteen states and the District of Columbia have added e-cigarettes to their indoor clean air laws, according to the American Lung Association.

For this study, Islam and his colleagues analyzed

data gathered by the Southern California Children Health Study, an ongoing study that surveyed a group of teens and young adults annually from 2014 to 2019.

Participants were asked if they had suffered from bronchitis, a daily cough, congestion, phlegm, wheezing or shortness of breath during the previous year. They also were asked if they had been exposed to either secondhand vaping or smoke. Nearly 2,100 teens were included.

The percentage of teens and young adults exposed to secondhand vaping rose from 12% to 16% between 2014 and 2019, while the percentage exposed to secondhand smoking declined from 27% to 21%, the investigators found.

The researchers reported that those exposed to secondhand vaping had an increased risk of bronchitis and shortness of breath, even after they took into account other possible lung health factors.

CELEBRITIES

Cardi B offers NYC fire victims aid

From news services

Cardi B has offered to pay the burial costs for all 17 people killed in a fire that ripped through a New York City high-rise.

New York City Mayor Eric Adams announced Wednesday that the Grammy-winning rapper had offered the financial relief for victims of the fire in the Bronx, where she grew up.

Many of the victims had ties to Gambia, and families of several of the victims planned to bury them in their West African homeland. Cardi B has committed to paying the repatriation expenses for the victims who will be buried in Gambia, the mayor's office said.

"I'm extremely proud to be from the Bronx ... when I heard about the fire and all of the victims, I knew I needed to do something to help," Cardi B said in a statement. "I cannot begin to imagine the pain and anguish that the families of the victims are experiencing, but I hope that not having to worry about the costs associated with burying their loved ones will help as they move forward and heal."

The fire was sparked by a faulty space heater, according to authorities.

AARP to honor Tomlin: Lily Tomlin is this year's recipient of AARP The Magazine's Movies for Grownups Awards career achievement honor.

The actor and comedian will receive the honor at the AARP's Best Movies and TV for Grownups ceremony, the group announced Wednesday. The event will be telecast March 18 on PBS. Tomlin, 82, star of "Grace and Frankie" and "9 to 5," is the winner of six Emmys, two Tonys and a Grammy.

The Movies for Grownups program champions films that resonate with viewers 50 and older,



Cardi B has offered to pay the burial costs for 17 people killed in a New York City fire. JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION 2021

and fights ageism in the entertainment industry.

Stewart to receive Twain award: Comedian, talk show host and political influencer Jon Stewart has been named the 23rd recipient of the Kennedy Center's Mark Twain Award for lifetime achievement in comedy.

Stewart, 59, rose to prominence as a stand-up comic and host of multiple failed talk shows before taking over Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" in 1999. His 16-year run as "Daily Show" host turned him into a cultural and political force as Stewart trained his satirical eye on both politics and an increasingly polarized national media.

The award will be presented to Stewart during a gala ceremony on April 24.

Anderson undergoing cancer treatment: Louie Anderson is being treated for cancer in a Las Vegas hospital, a spokesman said. Anderson, 68, was diagnosed with a type of non-Hodgkin lymphoma and "is resting comfortably," his publicist Glenn Schwartz said Tuesday.

The actor and comedian has been a familiar face on TV, including as host of a revival of the game show "Family Feud" from 1999 to 2002, and on comedy specials and in talk show appearances.

Grammys slated for April: The 2022 Grammy Awards will shift to an April show after recently postponing the ceremony due to rising COVID-19 cases due to the omicron variant. The awards will be broadcast live from Las Vegas on April 3, according to a joint statement released Tuesday from the Recording Academy and CBS. The show was originally set for Jan. 31 in Los Angeles. In response, the CMT Awards will move its ceremony date from April 3 to a later date that month.

Jan. 20 birthdays: Director David Lynch is 76. Guitarist Paul Stanley is 70. TV host Bill Maher is 66. Actor Lorenzo Lamas is 64. Actor James Denton is 59. Singer John Michael Montgomery is 57. Actor Rainn Wilson is 56. Actor Stacey Dash is 55. Musician Questlove is 51. Singer Kevin Parker is 36. Actor Evan Peters is 35.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson
askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Father mulls DNA test with estranged child

Dear Amy: I have an issue that I need to bring to you. I always felt that my daughter, "Carol" (from my first marriage) isn't really "mine."

She was the product of a wife that cheated on me, and although my wife always swore that she was mine, I find that highly unlikely. I feel that Carol knows this, but we are both uncomfortable about bringing that up.

I was involved in her upbringing and accepted her as mine in her earlier years, but we grew apart.

I see her on Facebook from time to time and although she is now a grandmother, she seems unhappy — in a hidden way.

Her mother died 20 years ago.

I think I have located her reluctant biological father, but I don't know if I should get involved because she may shun him, or she may be hurt because it's been 50 years, now.

A DNA test will be the proof and I am scared that this whole thing will be about a father that doesn't want her and I may freak out and find that after 50 years she was mine all along. I wouldn't want her to hate both men involved.

How should I approach this?
— Caught

Dear Caught: One way to begin would be to try your hardest to build a relationship with your daughter. If she seems unhappy "in a hidden way," then you could start by reaching out to her, checking in, finding out a bit about her adult life, and connecting with her children and grand-

children.

I assume that your own guilt and ambivalence about her possible parentage — and your implicit rejection of her — is keeping you away. You would feel better now if you acknowledged your own regrets and apologized for being so distant.

You could say that you and her mother had a difficult relationship, and that on some level you let your feelings of betrayal affect your ability to be present with her as a dad.

I don't think it's wise to connect your daughter with her supposed reluctant biological father. Let her draw her own conclusions and make her own choices.

If at your core you want to find out if she is your biological daughter, you should be brave enough to ask her to take a DNA test. However, you have been prescient about the emotional risk involved to both of you. Pay attention.

Dear Amy: My husband and I have no children, but we have three nephews.

Two nephews live near us, so we're in pretty close contact with them.

One of our nephews has always lived in a different town. As a result, we only see him and speak by telephone on an infrequent basis.

My question involves how we should divide up our estate.

I want to divide it into equal amounts, leaving one-third to each nephew.

My husband thinks we should give more to the two nephews we have a closer relationship with.

But if we do that, then how much is enough for

the third one without hurting his feelings? Do you have any suggestions?
— In a Quandary

Dear Quandary: In this situation, I vote for equal financial shares to all brothers.

If you had one particularly close nephew of the three, you might single that one out for an extra award, but in the scenario you describe, you would not be favoring one of the three, but excluding one of the three. I believe there's a difference.

If you gave equal amounts to all three men, you could still pass along special and specific heirlooms or mementos to the nephews you know better.

Dear Amy: I have concluded that there is no point in dwelling on the negative aspects of people who fail to acknowledge my gifts.

I mean, how much effort does it take to email, "Thank you for your thoughtful gift (or contribution in my name), greatly appreciated" with no stationery or postage required — if only to reassure me that it was in fact received?

Rather, when a gift is not acknowledged, I just thank myself for having sent it and note this in my contacts card for that recipient. Then I move on.
— Grateful for Myself

Dear Grateful: I believe you've inspired a few people today.

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HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): The idea of pursuing an adventure may be very exciting for you now. Unfortunately, figuring out the practical details of how to make it happen could be difficult. Don't lose heart! Help could come from an unexpected source.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Some financial support could come from your family at this time. They might not quite understand what you're doing or why it's important. This kind of specific validation may have to come from your peers. Keep in mind that people will help you in different ways.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): You may be tired of waiting for others to read your mind. If a personal or professional relationship isn't all you want it to be at the moment, you have the power to change whatever is unsatisfying. You may especially benefit from entering the interaction with a clear idea of what you want.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Cleaning might produce immediately satisfying results once you make the effort to do it. As you pay attention to what you own, you can also develop better ways to organize your space. Giving yourself easy access to the things you actually use can make your life more comfortable.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Actively seeking pleasure can be a worthy pursuit. A wholehearted embrace of your own needs and desires can inspire you to be more generous. You likely want everyone else to feel good too. Be on the lookout for opportunities to help others follow their bliss as well.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The people in your life might be important, but you probably have your own personal space to take care of too. Allowing yourself enough downtime to start your day can give you the energy to be present later. You'll be able to enjoy a good conversation better when you aren't distracted.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Information you need could arrive. Crowdsourcing a necessary choice might be tempting. Even so, it may be necessary at some point for you to shut off the spigot and sort through everything. There is a limit to how much advice is useful. Be aware of when you begin to feel overwhelmed.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your passion could be strong at this time. This may motivate you. A friend, or someone you follow on social media, could have a tip for you. Do your own research before you act on it, but you might have a good eye now for which styles are likely to work out.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your desire could inspire you to shift some of your ideas about the world. There is a risk you might adopt a self-serving view to justify something you were going to do. You will have to contend with the limits of reality, but there is no need to defer to boundaries that aren't real.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Work hard behind the scenes to get your life in order. A prime target for your energy could be complicated financial stuff. You may not know everything you need to know at this point. Ask the right questions. The answers could make the big picture finally click into place.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A group may demand a lot of effort from you at this time, but your personal connection to other members can make the work bearable. That said, you may notice if your friends don't seem into it. Dial back your own intensity if you feel resentful about the contributions of others.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Work hard today. Don't forget the people who have helped you get to where you are. It's not all about you! Reconnecting with someone in your network could help you discover that you have a potential opportunity to offer them. It will feel great to support them. Return the favor.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Jan. 20, 1265, England's first representative Parliament met for the first time.

In 1936, Britain's King George V died after his physician injected the mortally ill monarch with

morphine and cocaine to hasten his death; his eldest son, Edward VIII, abdicated the throne 11 months later.

In 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first chief executive to be inaugurated on Jan. 20 instead of March 4.

In 1981, Iran released 52 Americans it had held hostage for 444 days,

minutes after the presidency had passed from Carter to Reagan.

In 2009, Barack Obama was sworn in as the nation's first African American president.

In 2011, federal authorities orchestrated one of the biggest Mafia takedowns in FBI history, charging 127 suspected mobsters with crimes spanning decades.

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BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at [PlayJumble.com](https://www.playjumble.com)



Scan QR code to play online.

SUDOKU

7 9 3

5 4

3 4 2

6 5

4 9 1 2

2 7

9 8 6

3 1 4

6 3 8

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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

8 6 8 7 2 9 1 9

9 7 9 8 6 1 2 8

2 1 2 9 9 8 6 7

6 2 9 9 7 1 8 8

9 8 2 1 8 6 7 2 9

7 8 1 8 9 2 9 6

2 2 7 6 8 9 9 8 1

1 9 6 7 2 8 8 9 2

8 5 8 2 1 9 6 7 7

BOGGLE



By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

ALLD

RCNO

OUSA

PEFR

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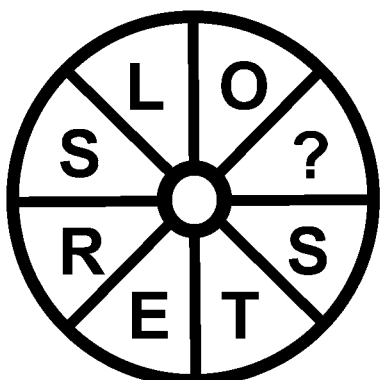
INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE	YOUR BOGGLE RATING
3 letters = 1 point	1151+ = Champ
4 letters = 2 points	101-150 = Expert
5 letters = 3 points	61-100 = Pro
6 letters = 4 points	31-60 = Gamer
7 letters = 6 points	21-30 = Rookie
8 letters = 10 points	11-20 = Amateur
9+ letters = 15 points	0-10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?
Find AT LEAST FIVE CURRENCIES in the grid of letters.

PESO EURO POUND FRANC DOLLAR

WordWheel



Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.
LOBSTERS

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WORD SEARCH

Wordsearch: lots of ologies

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

RAZ FVSNKLTRICHOLOGY

ARXQOURHINOLOGYAPCH

DEKGRRYGOLOERENEVBH

ISP SOXCMSHRXGBQIAA

OCEIAIRETTYZZIEIVRNE

LIYJDMSEPGTOBNAGODM

OELGEEYOYOSLOAJETLAA

GNTNOLMLHORITRKCOT

YCGHOLOIGPCLANCEGEO

YEMGETOYOISTOYNPYWL

QGY YARQITLOXDTIOYDO

KYOMONAPDLOEHRORZNG

WIOLOILOPORMGDTGLEEY

YTUROLOGYEAYYUNNOFQ

SWABPHYGROCCUREIIGC

NGXWECTRYATYARXCCLLY

ERUTUSCALPELNLGLAMPS

GYMCDRUGPYGOLOSOPFS

YGOLOHCYSSPSURGEONUJ

ANGIOLOGY	LAMP	POSOLOGY	STOMATOLOGY
BANDAGE	LANCE	PROBE	SURGEON
CARDIOLOGY	MASK	PSYCHOLOGY	SUTURE
CURE	MYOLOGY	RADIOLOGY	SWAB
DRIP	NURSE	REMEDY	THERAPY
DRUG	OPTICIAN	RHINOLOGY	TRICHOLOGY
EPIDEMIOLOGY	OSTEOLOGY	SCALPEL	UROLOGY
FORCEPS	OTOLOGY	SCIENCE	VENEREOLOGY
GERATOLOGY	PATHOLOGY	SLING	VIROLOGY
HAEMATOLOGY	PHYSIO	SPLINT	X-RAY

TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

3/27/16

ACROSS

- 1 Alda or Thicke
- 5 Rob Lowe's role on "The West Wing"
- 8 Actress Fey
- 9 Disney's "Lady and the ____"
- 12 "Waiting for ____"; play by Clifford Odets
- 13 Long-running prime-time soap opera
- 14 West and others
- 15 Sandwich on pita bread
- 16 Capture
- 18 "What Kind of Fool ____?"
- 19 Montana and Mantegna
- 20 "For Your Eyes ____"; 007 movie
- 21 "High ____"; Gary Cooper classic
- 23 "____ to the Moon"; song for Frank Sinatra
- 24 Evergreen tree
- 25 "The Donna ____ Show"
- 26 Gray and Moran
- 28 Woodwind instrument
- 29 Stink
- 30 Actor Parker of "Daniel Boone"
- 32 "____ & Order: SVU"

ALAN SAM

TINA TRAMP

LEFTY DALLAS

MAES GYRO NAB

AMI JOES ONLY

NOON FLYME

PINE REED

ERINS OBOE

REEK FESS LAW

REC ALLY OGRE

SEAGAL TRAIN

ESTES ANDA

ASH COOL

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3/27/16

DOWN

- 35 ____ room; large den
- 36 Actress Sheedy
- 37 Villain
- 38 Actor Steven ____
- 40 "Wagon ____"; old western series
- 41 Actor Rob ____
- 42 "Two ____ Half Men"
- 43 Bit of soot
- 44 "____ Hand Luke"; Paul Newman film
- 1 "The ____"; adventure series for George Peppard
- 2 Sitcom by Colin Hanks
- 3 Household pests
- 4 Anti's vote
- 5 "Dancing with the ____"
- 6 Folksinger Guthrie
- 7 Prefix for nourished or practice
- 10 Role on "Modern Family"
- 11 "____ 23: 'The Lord is my shepherd...'"
- 12 Monogram for "Little Women" author Alcott
- 13 Actor on "Touched by an Angel"
- 15 "____ with the Wind"
- 17 Casual farewell
- 19 Voight and Cryer
- 20 Bread spread
- 22 Cry from the sty
- 23 Shortest months: abbr.
- 25 Like pink cheeks
- 26 Goof up
- 27 Actress Della
- 30 "The ____"; CW superhero series starring Grant Gustin
- 31 Building annex, often
- 33 Computer font
- 34 Actress Ming-Na ____
- 36 Grows old
- 37 "Deal ____ Deal"
- 39 "One Day ____ Time"
- 40 "Tic ____ Dough"; old game show

ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

Mexican pals Warp Believers Research results Like Cheerios Schools of thought Boxer Spinks Egg cells ____ bread Appetite

Run off to wed

Slangy suffix Creeper Shade

Cowboy's cover

Rush Action word "Act your ____"

Test format Pecan pie syrup Safe place

Black cat, maybe Standout

Film director Kurosawa

Mangy mutt Listener Hosp. areas

Scathing review Berate loudly

Brass instrument Part of B.C.E.

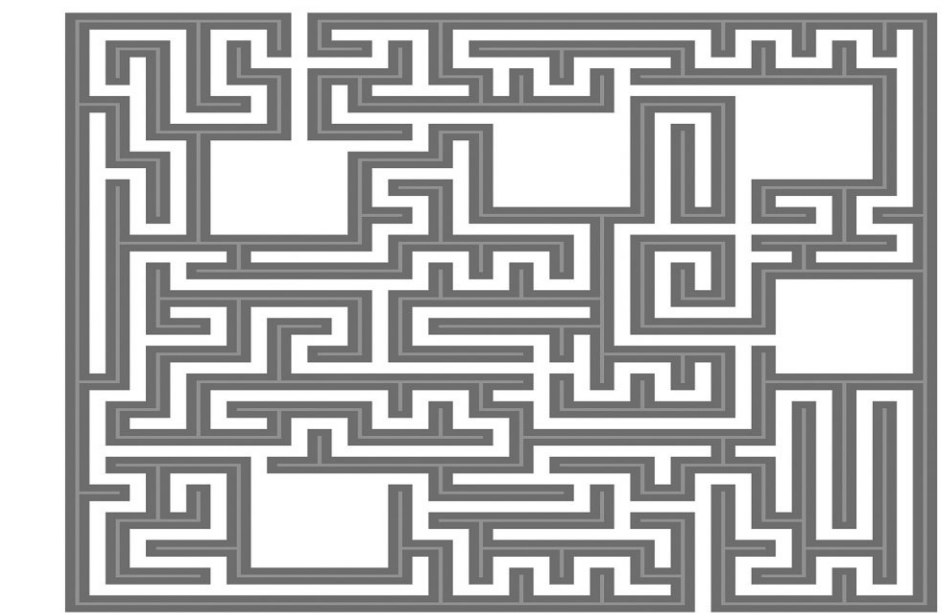
Ice mass Basket material Time off

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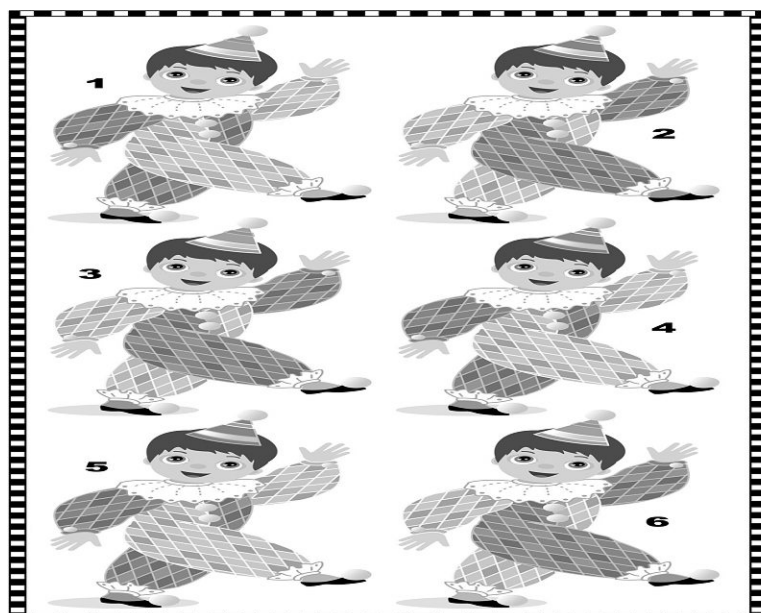
2/8/20

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



WHICH 2 ARE IDENTICAL?



Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



Garfield By Jim Davis



Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



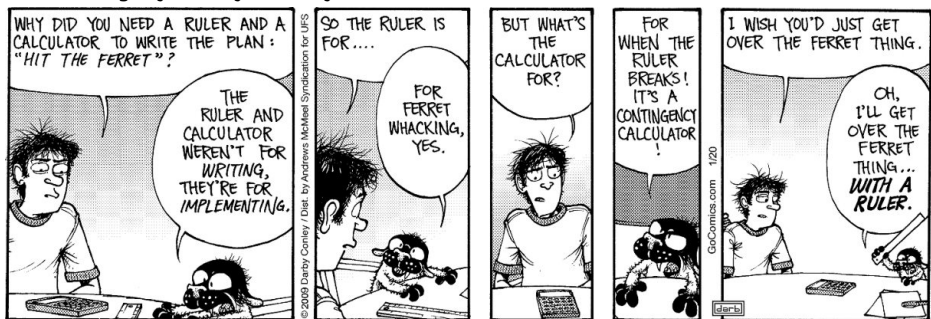
Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



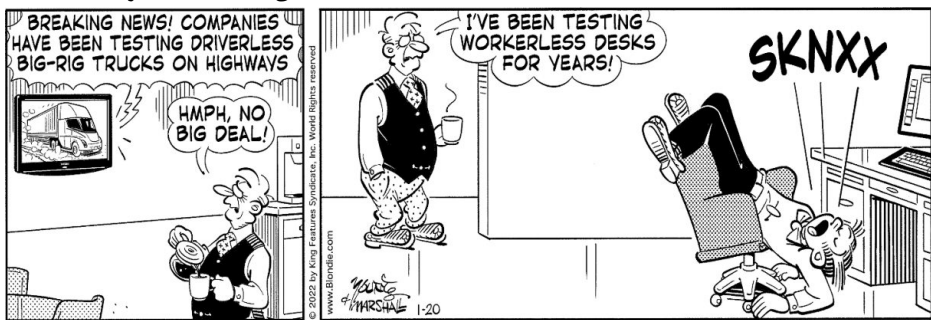
Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



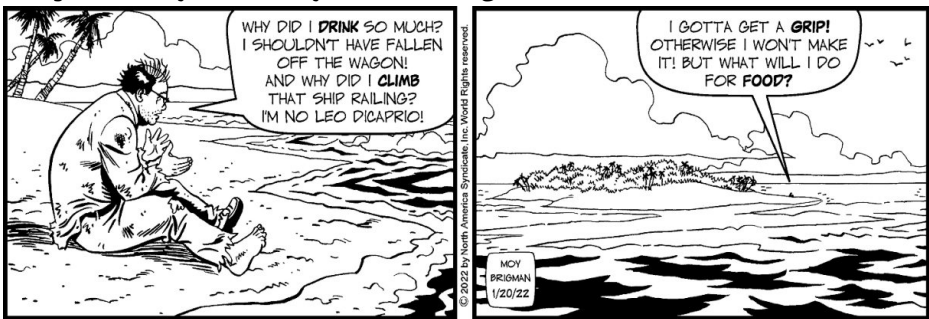
Dilbert By Scott Adams



Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



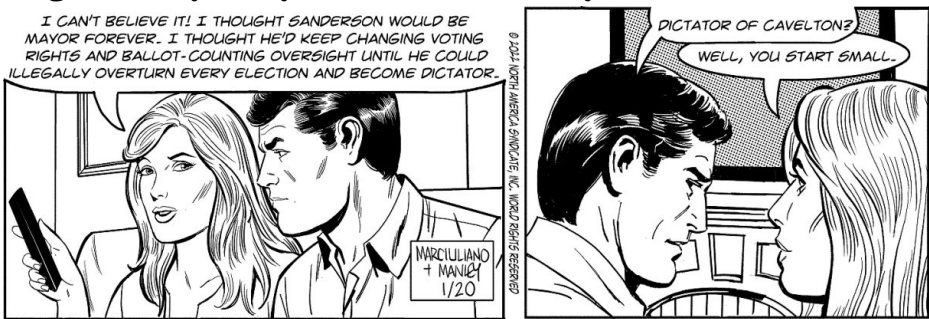
Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



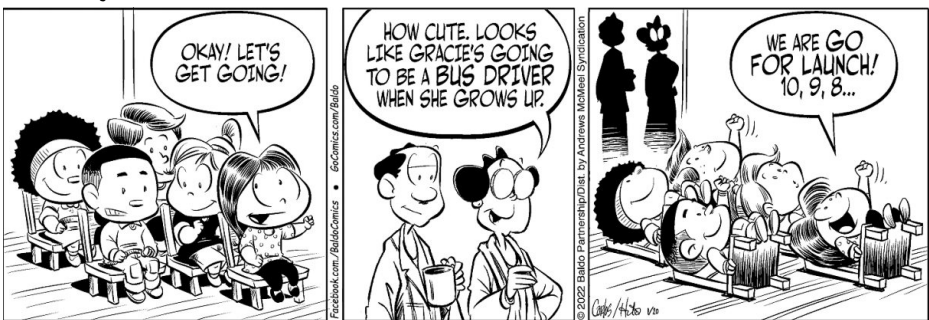
Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



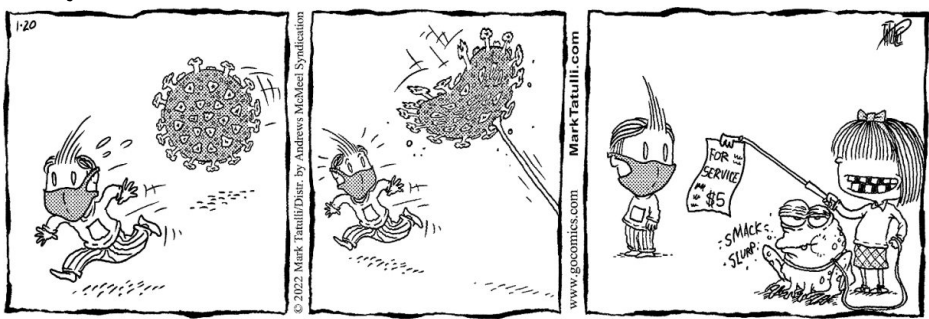
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



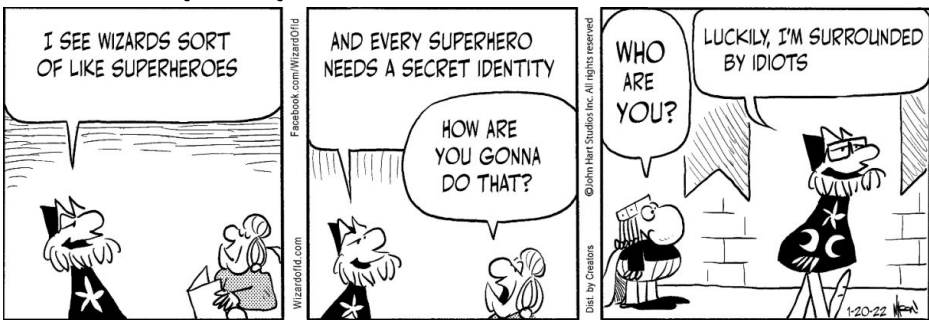
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



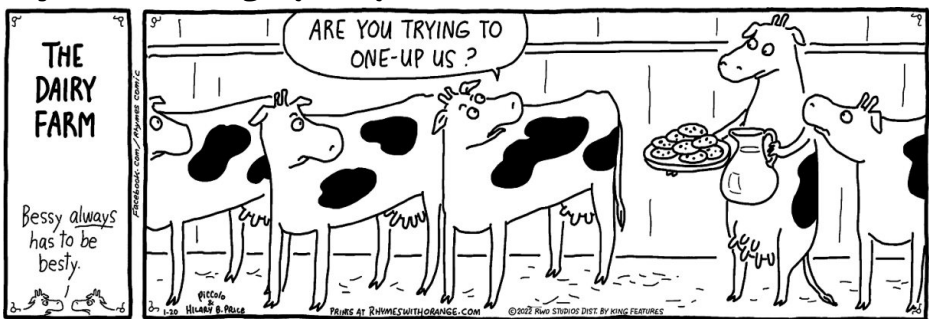
Lio By Mark Tatulli



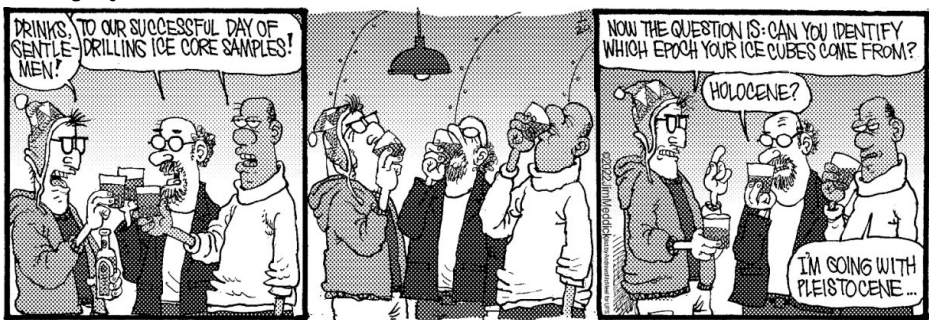
Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



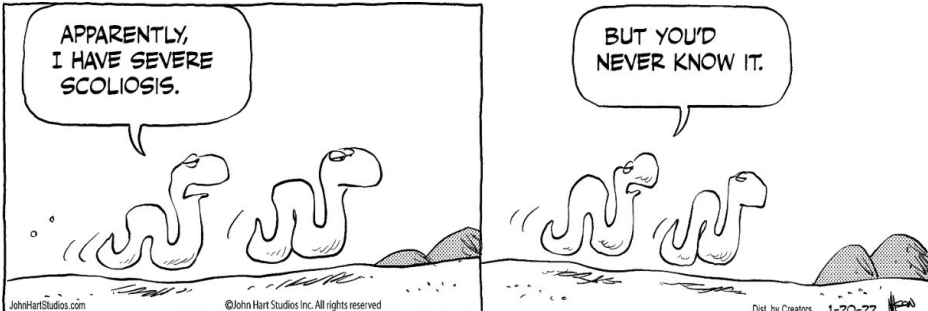
Monty By Jim Meddick



For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston



B.C. By Hart



Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker





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5th Generation Nitric Oxide Breakthrough Proven in Clinical Trials to Restore Maximum Blood Flow in 5 Minutes

A newly improved version of America's best-selling male supplement gives 60-year-old men the results they enjoyed in their 30's.

America's best-selling male performance enhancer just got a lot better.

It's the latest breakthrough for nitric oxide – the molecule that makes pleasure possible by increasing blood flow right throughout your body.

Nitric oxide won the Nobel Prize in 1998. It's why "the little blue pill" works. Thousands of studies confirm NO is the key to performance.

And this new discovery increases nitric oxide availability resulting in even quicker, stronger and longer-lasting pleasure.

One double-blind, placebo-controlled study (the “gold-standard” of research) involved a group of 60-year-old-men.

They didn't exercise. They didn't eat healthy. And researchers reported their "nitric oxide availability was almost totally compromised," resulting in HALF the blood flow of a man in his peak.

But only five minutes after the first dose their blood flow increased dramatically, almost back to levels of a perfectly healthy 31-year-old man! "It's amazing," remarks nitric oxide expert Dr. Al Sears. "That's like giving 60-year-old men the power of 30-year-olds."

WHY SO MUCH EXCITEMENT?

Despite the billions men spend annually on older nitric oxide therapies, there's one well-known problem with them.

They don't always work.

A world renowned physician explains why. He's studied nitric oxide for over 43 years. He is the physician-in-chief at a notable hospital in Boston. He says a "deficiency of bioactive nitric oxide... leads to impaired endothelium-dependent vasorelaxation."

In plain English, these older products may increase levels of nitric oxide. But that's only half the battle. If it's not bioactively available then your body can't absorb it and won't perform.

Experts simply call it the nitric oxide “glitch.” And until now, there’s never been a solution.

5th GENERATION NITRIC OXIDE FORMULA FLYING OFF SHELVES

Upon further research, America's No. 1 men's health expert Dr. Al Sears discovered certain nutrients fix this "glitch" resulting in significantly better improvement in blood flow.

He's combined those nutrients with proven nitric oxide boosters in a new formula called Primal Max Red. In clinical trials, 5,000 mg is required for satisfying performance. Primal Max Red contains a bigger, 9,000 mg per serving dose. It's become so popular, he's having trouble keeping it in stock.

Dr. Sears is the author of more than 500 scientific papers. Thousands of people listened to him speak at the recent Palm Beach Health & Wellness Festival featuring Dr. Oz. NFL Hall of Fame quarterback Joe Namath visited his clinic, the Sears Institute for Anti-Aging Medicine.

Primal Max Red has only been available for a few months — but everyone who takes it reports a big difference. “I have the energy to perform three times in one day, WOW! That has not happened in years. Oh, by the way I am 62,” says Jonathan K. from Birmingham, AL.

HOW IT WORKS

Loss of staying power starts with your blood vessels. Specifically, the inside layer called the endothelium where nitric oxide is made.

The problem is various factors thicken your blood vessels as you age. This blocks availability causing



A new discovery that increases nitric oxide availability was recently proven in a clinical trial to boost blood flow 275% resulting in even quicker, stronger and longer-lasting performance.

the nitric oxide “glitch.” The result is difficulty in getting and sustaining healthy blood flow.

How bad is the problem?

Research shows the typical 40-year-old man absorbs 50% less nitric oxide. At 50, that drops to 25%. And once you pass 60 just a measly 15% gets through.

To make matters worse, nitric oxide levels start declining in your 30s. And by 70, nitric oxide production is down an alarming 75%.

Primal Max Red is the first formula to tackle both problems. Combining powerful nitric oxide boosters and a proven delivery mechanism that defeats the nitric oxide “glitch” resulting in significantly better blood flow. There’s not enough space here to fully explain how it works, so Dr. Sears will send anyone who orders Primal Max Red a free special report that explains everything.

MORE CLINICAL RESULTS

Nutrients in Primal Max Red have logged impressive results.

In a Journal of Applied Physiology study, one resulted in 6 times MORE nitric oxide. And these increased levels lasted up to 12 hours.

"I measured my nitric oxide levels, you can buy a test kit from Amazon," reports 48-year-old Jeff O. "Monday night I showed depleted."

Then he used ingredients in Primal Max Red and, “The results were off the charts. I first woke around 3 a.m. on Tuesday ready to go. My nitric oxide levels measured at the top end of the range.”

**FREE BONUS
TESTOSTERONE BOOSTER**

Every order also gets Dr. Sears testosterone boosting formula Primal Max Black for free.

"If you want passionate pleasure you had in your younger days, you need nitric oxide to get you going. And testosterone for energy and drive," says Dr. Sears. "You get both with Primal Max Red and Primal Max Black."

HOW TO GET PRIMAL MAX

To secure free bottles of Primal Max Black and get the hot, new Primal Max Red formula, buyers should contact the Sears Health Hotline at **1-800-766-2135** within the next 48 hours. "It's not available in drug stores yet," says Dr. Sears. "The Hotline allows us to ship directly to the customer."

Dr. Sears feels so strongly about Primal Max, all orders are backed by a 100% money-back guarantee. "Just send me back the bottle and any unused product within 90 days from purchase date, and I'll send you all your money back," he says.

The Hotline will be open for the next 48 hours. After that, the phone number will be shut down to allow them to restock. Call **1-800-766-2135** to secure your limited supply of Primal Max Red and free bottles of Primal Max Black. You don't need a prescription, and those who call in the first 24 hours qualify for a significant discount. Use Promo Code **NP0122PMAX140** when you call in. Lines are frequently busy, but all calls will be answered.

THESE STATEMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN EVALUATED BY THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION. THIS PRODUCT IS NOT INTENDED TO DIAGNOSE, TREAT, CURE OR PREVENT ANY DISEASE. RESULTS MAY VARY

Hartford Courant

SPORTS

COURANT.COM/SPORTS

OLYMPICS

Donohue eyes medal this time around

Madison ice dancer and his partner Hubbell finished 4th in 2018

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

Zach Donohue said he watched his 2018 Olympic ice dancing performance only one time after the PyeongChang Games in South Korea were over. He and partner Madison Hubbell were in contention for a bronze medal but a series of small mistakes in the free dance portion of the competition dropped them to fourth place. “I watched it once and went,

‘Ughh, you idiot,’ ” said Donohue, who was born in Hartford and grew up in Madison. “I was like, ‘All right, I never want to see this again.’ ” But he added: “I move on from disappointment pretty quick, on some things. That one, it was a good solid couple of days, couple of weeks, but honestly when I went back and looked at it, we kind of already knew that we didn’t train the way we wished we had going into it. “We knew on the day that we were holding back and tight and the nerves were there. We’d never been about to fight for a medal at the Olympics and sitting in third place, and only having a tiny point gap, we hadn’t been in that situation before

and the pressure got to us.” Donohue, who now lives in Montreal, and Hubbell will be back one more time to contend for an Olympic medal in the Beijing Games, which open Feb. 4. The ice dancing team competition will take place Feb. 4 and Feb. 7 and the individual competition on Feb. 12 and Feb. 14. That fourth place is why they’re going back. “Last Olympics was not a complete disappointment to us - it’s hard to complain about fourth place at your first Olympic Games,” Donohue said. “But we did feel we had left a bit on the table and

Turn to Donohue, Page 4



United States Olympic figure skating ice dancers Zach Donohue and Madison Hubbell pose for a portrait at the 2017 Team USA Media Summit. RICK BOWMER/AP

GIANTS

Poles gets the seal of approval for GM gig

‘He’s well-equipped for the job,’ says ex-BC teammate Kiwanuka

By Tom Rock
Newsday

NEW YORK — Mathias Kiwanuka used to tease one of his former college teammates by joking that one day he’d be general manager of the Giants. It’s not a joke any longer. Ryan Poles, the executive director of personnel for Kansas City, met with the Giants for a second interview on Wednesday for their open position. The Giants hoped to learn more about him, his leadership style, his vision and his personality before hiring anyone for the job. Kiwanuka, who played at Boston College with Poles from 2003-05, already has a firm grasp on most of those qualities. “I know him,” Kiwanuka told Newsday. “I know his character. I’ve sat and broken bread with him. I know how hard he is willing to work . . . I think he can do it. He’s well-equipped for the job. He is more than up to the challenge. He gets it, and I believe he would bring that to New York.” Kiwanuka was two years ahead of Poles at Boston College but recalled him as a “cerebral” offensive lineman who even then had an understanding of how the offense came together as a whole. “He understood where receivers are supposed to be lined up and why somebody was out of formation and where the play is supposed to be hitting,” Kiwanuka said. Kiwanuka wound up setting school records for sacks and was a first-round pick of the Giants before winning a pair of Super Bowls. Poles was an offensive tackle who had a training camp tryout with the Bears but never made an NFL roster. “I don’t recall him ever beating me, per se,” Kiwanuka said with a laugh, “but he was a good lineman. He was stout. He played alongside some guys who had been there a significant amount of time and he fit right in.” Once his NFL playing career fizzled, Poles returned to Boston College as an assistant and soon landed a low-level scouting job for Kansas City. He has been with the organization since 2009, climb-

Turn to Giants, Page 2



UConn's Andre Jackson (44) drives to the hoop against Butler's Simas Lukosius (41) in the second half at the XL Center on Tuesday. Jackson had 12 points, 10 rebounds and three assists as UConn won, 76-59. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

UConn men's basketball

Shades of the ‘Pistol’

UConn guard Jackson keeps legend alive in his work, game

HARTFORD — Pete Maravich called it his wrist pass. “Watch this one,” Red Auerbach barked. “You won’t believe it.” Maravich demonstrated for an overhead camera, looking and throwing his arms forward but breaking his wrists dramatically so the ball bounced to the player on his left. “Don’t try it,” Auerbach barked again. “It’s ridiculous.” If you’re old enough to remember “Red on Roundball,” a 4 ½-minute halftime feature back in the 1970s, when the NBA was presented as a game of the week, you surely remember “Pistol”

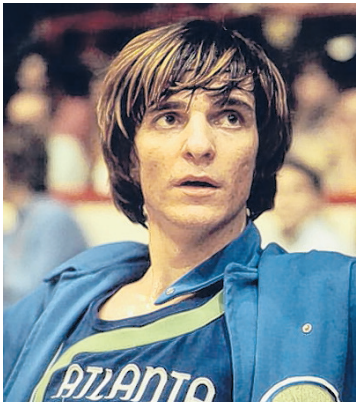


Dom Amore

Pete Maravich showing his passing, dribbling, shooting drills and skills. Auerbach, the host and Celtics GM at the time, would often slap his forehead in amazement. Those segments stuck with me. Half a lifetime later, from up in near the ceiling tiles at Gampel Pavilion, I could swear I saw that

“wrist pass” again. Andre Jackson used it while bringing the ball up court in one of his first games as a guard for the UConn men’s basketball team, and it was no coincidence. “Clyde Clymer, who was my basketball trainer since I was a kid, the person who taught me how to play, he always was big on Pete Maravich,” Jackson said. “He had such good shooting form. He used to teach me how to shoot like Pete Maravich. I was always a curious kid, I asked a lot of questions.”

Turn to Amore, Page 4



“Pistol” Pete Maravich of the Atlanta Hawks during a game in the early- 970s, wearing No. 44, the number Andre Jackson chose at UConn. TONY TOMSIC/GETTY

WNBA

Hammon leaving Spurs to be Aces head coach

By Sarah Valenzuela
New York Daily News

Becky Hammon — the former New York Liberty All-Star and trailblazing coach — knew what she was doing when she decided to work as an assistant coach for the San Antonio Spurs. She also knew what she was

doing when she decided to leave San Antonio and Gregg Popovich to become reportedly the highest paid head coach in the WNBA with the Las Vegas Aces. “My heart was saying it was time to go,” Hammon said in an interview with the Associated Press published Tuesday. “This is where I am supposed to be right

now. There were a lot of sleepless nights getting to this conclusion.” “Las Vegas sees me as a head coach now,” she said. “The WNBA has called every year with job openings. . . . I’ve always said ‘thank you I’m very flattered,’ but stayed on this path. This was first time where I was like I’ll listen.” Let’s get one thing straight:

it’s not downgrading if someone chooses to leave employment with the NBA for the WNBA. Anything or anyone that suggests otherwise has more to learn about both leagues. And Hammon said as much: “I think it’s an ignorant statement.”

Turn to Hammon, Page 2

Did you know?

Sixteen-year-olds have higher crash rates than drivers of any other age.

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SPORTS

UP NEXT

UConn MBB: at Butler, Thursday, 9 p.m.; Georgetown (Gampel), Tuesday, 8:30 p.m.; at DePaul, Jan. 29, 6:30 p.m.
UConn WBB: Seton Hall (Gampel), Friday, 7 p.m.; at St. John's, Sunday, 1 p.m.; at South Carolina, Jan. 27, 7 p.m.
Celtics: Trail Blazers, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; at Wizards, Sunday, 3:30 p.m.; Kings, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Knicks: Pelicans, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Clippers, Sunday, 1 p.m.; at Cavaliers, Monday, 7 p.m.
Nets: at Spurs, Friday, 8:30 p.m.; at Timberwolves, Sunday, 8 p.m.; Lakers, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
UConn hockey: New Hampshire, Friday, 7 p.m.; New Hampshire, Saturday, 4 p.m.; Merrimack, Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Bruins: Capitals, Thursday, 7 p.m.; Jets, Saturday, 3 p.m.; Ducks, Monday, 7 p.m.
Rangers: at Hurricanes, Friday, 7 p.m.; Coyotes, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Kings, Monday, 7 p.m.
Wolf Pack: at Hershey, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Hershey, Sunday, 3 p.m.; Springfield, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO

BASKETBALL
3 p.m.: LSU at Alabama. (Taped) ESPN
5 p.m.: Women's College } Teams TBA. (Taped) ESPN
5 p.m.: Georgetown at Providence. (Live) FS1
6 p.m.: Women's College } Pittsburgh at Virginia Tech. (Live) ACC
7 p.m.: Women's College } Florida at Kentucky. (Live) SEC
7 p.m.: Western Kentucky at Florida Atlantic. (Live) CBSSN
7 p.m.: SMU at Memphis. (Live) ESPN2
7 p.m.: Charlotte at North Texas. (Live) ESPN
7 p.m.: Purdue at Indiana. (Live) FS1
7:30 p.m.: Women's College } Louisville at NC State. (Live) ESPN
7:30 p.m.: Phoenix Suns at Dallas Mavericks. (Live) TNT
7:30 p.m.: New Orleans Pelicans at New York Knicks. (Live), MSG.
8 p.m.: Women's College } Georgia Tech at Syracuse. (Live) ACC
9 p.m.: College: UConn at Butler. (Live), FS1.
9 p.m.: Women's College } Arkansas at Alabama. (Live) SEC
9 p.m.: Santa Clara at Saint Mary's. (Live) CBSSN
9 p.m.: Tulsa at Cincinnati. (Live) ESPN
9 p.m.: Connecticut at Butler. (Live) FS1
10 p.m.: Indiana Pacers at Golden State Warriors. (Live) TNT
11 p.m.: San Francisco at Gonzaga. (Live) CBSSN
11 p.m.: Arizona at Stanford. (Live) ESPN
11 p.m.: UCLA at Utah. (Live) FS1
5 a.m.: Women's College } Southern Illinois-Edwardsville at Tennessee Tech. (Taped) ESPN
GOLF
12 p.m.: Latin America Amateur Championship, First Round. (Same-day Tape) ESPN2
12 p.m.: Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions, First Round. (Live) GOLF
3 p.m.: The American Express, First Round. (Live) GOLF
7 p.m.: Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, First Round. (Live) GOLF
2 a.m.: DP World Tour Golf Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship, Second Round. (Live) GOLF
HOCKEY
12 p.m.: Colorado Avalanche at Anaheim Ducks. (Taped) NHL
2 p.m.: Toronto Maple Leafs at New York Rangers. (Taped) NHL
7 p.m.: Washington Capitals at Boston Bruins. (Live), Hulu, ESPNPlus.
9 p.m.: Florida Panthers at Edmonton Oilers. (Live) SPRTNET
9:30 p.m.: Colorado Avalanche at Los Angeles Kings. (Live) ESPN
TENNIS
7 a.m.: 2022 Australian Open Tennis Second Round. (Taped) TENNIS
2 p.m.: 2022 Australian Open Tennis Second Round. (Taped) ESPN2
9 p.m.: 2022 Australian Open Tennis Third Round. (Live) ESPN2

KNICKS

Walker can't make predictions about knee

By Stefan Bondy
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — It's impossible to plot the future of Kemba Walker's balky left knee. And nobody understands that better than Walker, which is why the 31-year-old couldn't make declarations about his availability for the remainder of the season.

"We'll see. We'll see down the line," Walker said. "It really just depends on how I feel."

Walker has tried a stem cell injection and rest. He stopped playing both ends of back-to-back games in Boston, then signed in New York with a plan of splitting time at point guard with Derrick Rose.

But circumstances in the NBA are unpredictable, especially during a COVID-19 outbreak. It left Walker logging heavy minutes in December, and one "weird" step during warmups on New Year's Eve shut him down for 20 days.

Walker said it wasn't an injury of accumulation, just a freaky misstep. "It was particular to that night," Walker said. "It just happened during my warmup, just a weird step, I guess. I don't know."

Tuesday night's 112-110 loss to the Timberwolves was more of an encouraging step for Walker. He played 30 minutes and contributed 19 points, providing the Knicks with



Knicks guard Kemba Walker dribbles the ball against the Timberwolves on Tuesday in New York. Walker played 30 minutes and scored 19 points. Minnesota won 112-110. NOAH K. MURRAY/AP

the type of offense they've missed at point guard. He's still not driving to the rim with effectiveness and Tom Thibodeau's start-or-don't-play edict with Walker remains puzzling.

But Walker nearly carried the

Knicks to victory in the fourth quarter with three treys in two minutes. The Knicks (22-23) never hit another field goal, however, and choked at home to Karl-Anthony Towns and the Timberwolves.

"He brings speed. He brings an

attitude to our team," Evan Fournier said. "And he's always smiling, he has a great attitude, he has a great spirit. It's always great to see Kemba. With him on the floor it adds another weapon. He's so good off the pick and roll and off the bounce. He shot great."

It was Walker's first game since Dec. 29, with the Knicks going 5-4 without their starting point guard. Overall this season, the Knicks are just 7-12 in games Walker doesn't play.

"Just rest, really. I just needed to rest," Walker said. "I was a little sore for a while. It was time, really I just wanted to feel good enough to get back on the court and (Tuesday) was the night."

How did he feel?

"Felt good," he said. "It was good to be out there with my teammates."

Before Walker returned, Thibodeau said he hoped the point guard would heal up enough to play through the season without another long break — "What I don't want a situation where it's on-off, on-off," the coach said.

That's tough to ensure with Walker's knee, no matter how long he sits between games. In the meantime — as the Knicks wait for Rose's return from ankle surgery and keep Cam Reddish shelved — Walker's going to have an important role when healthy.

NETS

Looking to 'stay afloat' until Durant returns from injury

By Greg Logan
Newsday

WASHINGTON — The standings said the Nets (27-16) still were third in the Eastern Conference only a half-game behind the Bulls and Heat before facing the Wizards (23-21) Wednesday night at Capital One Arena. But now that they must survive for at least a month without injured Kevin Durant, the Nets figure to struggle until the All-Star break in mid-February.

So it seemed vital for them to make the most of their current stretch in which they play nine of 11 games on the road and have the services of Kyrie Irving, who is not eligible for games in New York and Toronto because he has

not complied with the vaccine mandates in those cities. But the Nets were coming off a loss in Cleveland to begin their current four-game road trip and figured to have a tough time with the much-improved Wizards, who team former Net Spencer Dinwiddie in the backcourt with All-Star Bradley Beal.

"We have to continue to have growth as our project," coach Steve Nash said following the Nets' shootaround Wednesday morning. "We're here to try to get better. Winning and losing should be secondary to are we getting better every week? If we are getting better every week, we'll win enough games to stay afloat here."

Nash acknowledged the challenge the Nets face without not only

Durant (sprained left MCL) but also Joe Harris (left ankle surgery rehab) and Nic Claxton (left hamstring tightness). A total of 16 different players have started a game for the Nets this season, which is three short of the franchise-record 19 that started last season.

"Now, with Ky playing on the road, trying to incorporate him, get him back to himself, navigating all those things, some of it is just out of our hands," Nash said. "Hopefully, we can move this thing forward so when those guys do come back in, we're in a better position and they move into a group that's moving at a higher efficiency."

Asked if Irving might be putting pressure on himself to deliver at a higher rate in Durant's absence,

Nash said, "No, I don't think so. I think Ky is really trying to fit into the group, trying to get his rhythm back. Obviously, you see moments where he's outstanding and looks like he's never left, and there's other moments where it's a new guy, playing with a bunch of guys he's never played with and that takes time as well."

Without Durant Monday in Cleveland, Nash went with a small starting lineup that included three guards — Irving, James Harden and Patty Mills — along with rookies Kessler Edwards at forward and Day'Ron Sharpe at center. Mills is being counted upon to pick up some of the scoring slack, and he is averaging a career-high 13.4 points while shooting 42.0% from three-point range.

NHL

League reschedules games, season set to end on time

Associated Press

Despite postponing more than 100 games for coronavirus-related reasons, the NHL is still on track to complete the regular season on time by the end of April.

While it came at the expense of players competing in the Beijing Olympics, the new schedule keeps the top hockey league in the world

on pace to award the Stanley Cup before July 1.

The NHL on Wednesday revealed new dates for 98 postponed games, keeping the initial target date of April 29 for the end of the regular season. That would allow the traditional 16-team playoffs to begin in early May as originally planned.

"We are profoundly grateful to our fans for their support and

understanding during a challenging time and to our clubs, the NHL Players' Association and the players for their cooperation in a rescheduling of unprecedented logistical complexity," Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly said.

The changes include moving 23 other games around and 95 games filling the Feb. 7-22 gap that previously was scheduled for the Olym-

pic break. After the league and players union agreed to participate in the Olympics, the decision was made in late December to skip the Games in order to get through the 1,312-game season — the most in NHL history.

A total of 104 games have been postponed this season, including dozens linked to attendance restrictions in Canada.



San Antonio Spurs coach Becky Hammon passes to a member of the team before the start a game against the Nets. JESSIE ALCHEH/AP

Hammon

from Page 1

To think I've outgrown the WNBA in a coaching capacity is ridiculous. I'd rather be a coach in the WNBA and have my own organization and be running a team."

In fact, her hiring by the Aces was part of an increase in women coaches in the WNBA unseen since the early years of the league's inception, per Bleacher Report's Jackie Powell — depending on how the vacancy in Phoenix shakes out, the league could be looking at a 100% increase in women coaches for the first time since 1998.

Hammon makes a heckuva head coach no matter the team, location or league. Just because the NBA's been around 50 more years than the W does not mean Hammon or the women's league are any less worthy.

"It's a great opportunity to have a head coaching job at that level," Popovich told the AP. "To prove herself. She's already proven herself to me, but that doesn't matter in the long run. She's interviewed for a few jobs in the NBA, and she's more than qualified and would have done a great job."

As far as women breaking through the NBA's glass ceiling? Well, Popovich already said Hammon would have done it. But Hammon isn't the only leading candidate. Her fellow Liberty legend and Hall of Famer, Teresa Weatherspoon, was in conversations last year to replace New Orleans Pelicans' head coach Stan Van Gundy.

"Women are getting hired in all sorts of positions now," Hammon said. "Not just the NBA, but across professional sports leagues. For anyone to say the needle hasn't moved is wrong. The process [interviewing] in Portland moved the needle. It was a great process for me."

It's 2022 and we're rooting for women at every level.

Giants

from Page 1

ing his way through three different general manager regimes to become one of the top voices for a team that has built itself into an AFC power with the potential to play in a third straight Super Bowl next month.

"He's confident in himself but he's also humble enough to ask questions," Kiwanuka said. "I think that can get lost. Some of the hardest things to get coaches or anybody in a front office to admit is that they don't have the answer to a question. He is confident enough to ask a question he doesn't have the answer to."

Case in point: Poles called Kiwanuka this season when Kansas City's players were having trouble mastering the schemes run by defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo. Kiwanuka played under Spagnuolo in New York and was able to offer some advice. Kansas City's defense, which struggled through the first part of the 2021 season, has since been among the best in the league.

"I'm certainly not saying I was the reason [for the turnaround]," Kiwanuka said, "but I think he does a good job of reaching out and gathering information."

Kiwanuka retired from the NFL in 2014 after nine seasons with the Giants. He's still a close observer of the team; he and former Giants teammate David Tyree host

"Odds With Ends," a weekly sports betting show on MSG Network (Fridays at 5 p.m.).

"Let's be honest, right now the team is in disarray," he said. "The offense struggled. I think if you don't fix the offensive line you don't really have a shot. But you need to figure out who will be the signal caller on the offensive side of the ball, you need to make sure the components you have — whether it's Saquon [Barkley] or Daniel Jones or whatever wide receiver combination you have — you have to put the pieces together."

Kiwanuka is also aware that having a high-profile job in New York is different than it is in Kansas City.

"It's a different beast, a different animal," he said.

Poles is 36 and the youngest of the Giants' candidates for the job. He is widely considered a top-notch talent evaluator and although his resume lacks some of the overall management experiences the Giants seem to be interested in they were intrigued enough by his first interview, done virtually last week, to ask him in for a second interview. He and Bills assistant general manager Joe Schoen, who met with the Giants in person on Tuesday, and 49ers assistant general manager Adam Peters who is scheduled to meet with the Giants on Thursday, are the only known finalists for the job, though there may be others who interview.

SCOREBOARD

NBA				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Brooklyn	27	16	.628	—
Philadelphia	25	18	.581	2
Toronto	21	20	.512	5
Boston	23	22	.511	5
New York	22	23	.489	6
SOUTHEAST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Miami	28	16	.636	—
Charlotte	24	20	.545	4
Washington	23	21	.523	5
Atlanta	18	25	.419	9½
Orlando	8	37	.178	20½
CENTRAL				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Chicago	27	15	.643	—
Cleveland	27	18	.600	1½
Milwaukee	27	19	.587	2
Indiana	15	29	.341	13
Detroit	10	33	.233	17½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Memphis	31	15	.674	—
Dallas	25	19	.568	5
San Antonio	16	28	.364	14
New Orleans	16	28	.364	14
Houston	13	32	.289	17½
NORTHWEST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Utah	29	15	.659	—
Denver	22	20	.524	6
Minnesota	22	22	.500	7
Portland	18	25	.419	10½
Oklahoma City	14	29	.326	14½
PACIFIC				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Phoenix	34	9	.791	—
Golden State	32	12	.727	2½
L.A. Lakers	22	22	.500	12½
L.A. Clippers	22	23	.489	13
Sacramento	18	28	.391	17½

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Brooklyn at Washington, late
Orlando at Philadelphia, late
Charlotte at Boston, late
Minnesota at Atlanta, late
Portland at Miami, late
Cleveland at Chicago, late
Memphis at Milwaukee, late
Oklahoma City at San Antonio, late
Toronto at Dallas, late
Houston at Utah, late
Detroit at Sacramento, late
L.A. Clippers at Denver, late
Indiana at L.A. Lakers, late

THURSDAY'S GAMES
New Orleans at New York, 7:30p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 7:30p.m.
Indiana at Golden State, 10p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES
L.A. Clippers at Philadelphia, 7p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Orlando, 7p.m.
Oklahoma City at Charlotte, 7p.m.
Miami at Atlanta, 7:30p.m.
Portland at Boston, 7:30p.m.
Chicago at Milwaukee, 8p.m.
Toronto at Washington, 8p.m.
Brooklyn at San Antonio, 8:30p.m.
Detroit at Utah, 9p.m.
Memphis at Denver, 9p.m.
Houston at Golden State, 10p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Sacramento at Milwaukee, 7p.m.
Oklahoma City at Cleveland, 8p.m.
Indiana at Phoenix, 9p.m.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS
Minnesota 112, New York 110
Golden State 102, Detroit 86

REBOUNDING LEADERS				
PLAYER, TM	G	OFF	DEF	REB
Gobert, UT	39	139	453	592
Jokic, DEN	37	100	416	516
Capela, ATL	36	151	320	471
Vincinuas, NO	41	140	354	494
Sabonis, IND	43	136	375	511
Gantkkop, IND	37	67	346	413
Vucevic, CHI	35	68	321	389
Allen, CLE	38	126	290	416
Nurkic, POR	40	99	324	423
Embiid, PHI	32	61	276	337

ODDS

COLLEGE BASKETBALL		THURSDAY
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG
at Providence	13½	Georgetown
Winthrop	3	at Presbyterian
Saint Louis	2	at UMass
Chattanooga	3½	at NC Greensboro
at VMI	4½	Samford
at Bowling Green	2	Akron
at North Texas	11	Charlotte
Marshall	2	at Florida Int'l
Western Kentucky	2	at Florida Atlantic
at Tusoon	9	Charleston (SC)
at Georgia State	4½	Appalachian St
at Delaware	17	Wm. & Mary
at Drexel	6	Elon
at Memphis	6	SMU
at Western Illinois	6	South Dakota
at Tennessee Tech	3	SIU-Edwardsville
at Tenn-Martin	3½	Austin Peay
Wright State	14	at IUPUI
Belmont	5½	at Morehead St
Purdue	3½	at Indiana
at JMU	7½	NC Wilmington
USC	2	at Colorado
Texas State	6½	at Ark. Little Rock
New Mexico St.	5½	at Sam Houston
Grand Canyon	2	at St. F. Austin
Troy	7½	at La. Monroe
at Oral Roberts	21	North Dakota
Montana State	7½	at N. Arizona
at SE Mo. St.	2½	Tennessee State
at Rice	4	Old Dominion
at LaLafayette	2½	South Alabama
at Arkansas State	5	Texas Arlington
at Tarleton State	5½	Calif. Baptist
at Utah Valley	12	UT Rio Grande
North Dakota St.	2	at UMKC
at Illinois-Chicago	4	N. Kentucky

NBA				
FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG	
at New York	off	(off)	New Orleans	
at Dallas	off	(off)	Phoenix	
at Golden State	off	(off)	Indiana	

NHL		THURSDAY
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG
at Philadelphia	off	Columbus
at Boston	off	Washington
at Buffalo	off	Dallas
at Pittsburgh	off	Ottawa
at Nashville	off	Winnipeg
at Edmonton	off	Florida
at Los Angeles	off	Colorado
at Vegas	off	Montreal
at Seattle	off	San Jose

NFL PLAYOFFS		SATURDAY
FAVORITE	SP	O/U
at Tennessee	3½	(47) Cincinnati
at Green Bay	6	(46½) San Francisco

SUNDAY		LA Rams
at Tampa Bay	3	(48)
at Kanss City	7½	(54½) Buffalo

SUPER BOWL LVI EXACT RESULT		
Green Bay defeats Kansas City	11-1	
Kansas City defeats Green Bay	12-1	
Buffalo defeats Green Bay	14-1	
Green Bay defeats Buffalo	14-1	
Kansas City defeats Tampa Bay	14-1	
Tampa Bay defeats Kansas City	15-1	
Buffalo defeats Tampa Bay	15-1	
Green Bay defeats Tennessee	18-1	
Kansas City defeats L.A. Rams	20-1	
Tampa Bay defeats Buffalo	20-1	
L.A. Rams defeats Buffalo	22-1	
Kansas City defeats San Francisco	25-1	
L.A. Rams defeats Kansas City	25-1	
San Francisco defeats Kansas City	25-1	
Tampa Bay defeats Tennessee	25-1	
Tennessee defeats Green Bay	25-1	
L.A. Rams defeats Tennessee	28-1	
Green Bay defeats Cincinnati	30-1	
Tennessee defeats Tampa Bay	30-1	
Buffalo defeats L.A. Rams	35-1	
Buffalo defeats San Francisco	35-1	
Cincinnati defeats Green Bay	35-1	
San Francisco defeats Buffalo	35-1	
Cincinnati defeats Tampa Bay	40-1	
Tampa Bay defeats Cincinnati	40-1	
Tennessee defeats L.A. Rams	40-1	
L.A. Rams defeats Cincinnati	45-1	
San Francisco defeats Tennessee	45-1	
Tennessee defeats San Francisco	50-1	
San Francisco defeats Cincinnati	60-1	
Cincinnati defeats L.A. Rams	60-1	
Cincinnati defeats San Francisco	86-1	
source: bovada.lv		

For the latest odds, go to
FanDuel Sportsbook,
https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/

NHL										
EASTERN CONFERENCE										
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Tampa Bay	41	27	9	5	59	141	117			
Florida	39	26	8	5	57	159	116			
Toronto	36	24	9	3	51	123	93			
Boston	36	22	12	2	46	112	97			
Detroit	40	18	17	5	41	108	130			
Buffalo	39	12	20	7	31	101	134			
Ottawa	32	11	19	2	24	90	115			
Montreal	38	8	25	5	21	83	139			
METRO.	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Carolina	36	26	8	2	54	126	81			
N.Y. Rangers	39	25	10	4	54	113	96			
Washington	40	22	9	9	53	133	111			
Pittsburgh	38	23	10	5	51	125	100			
Columbus	36	17	18	1	35	116	131			
Philadelphia	39	13	18	8	34	98	133			
New Jersey	37	14	18	5	33	107	129			
N.Y. Islanders	32	13	13	6	32	75	88			

WESTERN CONFERENCE										
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Colorado	36	25	8	3	53	156	115			
St. Louis	39	23	11	5	51	138	108			
Nashville	41	24	14	3	51	125	115			
Minnesota	35	22	10	3	47	132	109			
Winnipeg	35	17	12	6	40	105	103			
Dallas	36	18	16	2	38	102	111			
Chicago	39	15	18	6	36	95	126			
Arizona	37	9	24	4	22	82	140			
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Vegas	40	23	15	2	48	141	122			
Los Angeles	40	20	15	5	45	115	109			
Anaheim	41	19	15	7	45	120	120			
San Jose	40	21	17	2	44	112	121			
Calgary	35	18	11	6	42	110	88			
Vancouver	39	18	18	3	39	101	111			
Edmonton	35	18	15	2	38	117	117			
Seattle	38	11	23	4	26	102	138			

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Arizona at New Jersey, late
Toronto at N.Y. Rangers, late
Colorado at Anaheim, late

THURSDAY'S GAMES
Columbus at Philadelphia, 7p.m.
Dallas at Buffalo, 7p.m.
Ottawa at Pittsburgh, 7p.m.
Washington at Boston, 7p.m.
Winnipeg at Nashville, 8p.m.
Florida at Edmonton, 9p.m.
Colorado at Los Angeles, 9:30p.m.
Montreal at Vegas, 10p.m.
San Jose at Seattle, 10p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES
N.Y. Rangers at Carolina, 7p.m.
Pittsburgh at Columbus, 7p.m.
Arizona at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30p.m.
Dallas at Detroit, 7:30p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago, 8:30p.m.
Florida at Vancouver, 10p.m.
St. Louis at Seattle, 10p.m.
Tampa Bay at Anaheim, 10p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Philadelphia at Buffalo, 1p.m.
Winnipeg at Boston, 3p.m.
Arizona at N.Y. Rangers, 7p.m.
Carolina at New Jersey, 7p.m.
Montreal at Colorado, 7p.m.
Ottawa at Washington, 7p.m.
Toronto at N.Y. Islanders, 7p.m.
Detroit at Nashville, 7p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 9p.m.
Calgary at Edmonton, 10p.m.
Tampa Bay at San Jose, 10:30p.m.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS
Buffalo 3, Ottawa 1
Washington 4, Winnipeg 3, OT
Carolina 7, Boston 1
N.Y. Islanders 4, Philadelphia 3, SO
Vancouver 3, Nashville 1
Montreal 5, Dallas 3
Calgary 5, Florida 1
Tampa Bay 6, Los Angeles 4
Columbus at N.Y. Islanders, ppd
Detroit at Philadelphia, ppd
Chicago at Edmonton, ppd

POINT SCORING LEADERS				
PLAYER, TEAM	GP	G	A	PT
Alex Ovechkin, Was	40	27	28	55
Leon Draisaitl, Edm	35	26	28	54
Jonathan Huberdeau, Fla	39	15	38	53
Connor McDavid, Edm	34	19	34	53
Nazem Kadri, Col	33	14	35	49
Steven Stamkos, TB	40	19	29	48
Mikko Rantanen, Col	33	20	26	46
Timo Meier, SJ	35	20	25	45
Kirill Kaprizov, Min	34	16	28	44
Victor Hedman, TB	41	9	34	43
Johnny Gaudreau, Cgy	35	15	28	43
Brad Marchand, Bos	31	20	23	43
Nathan MacKinnon, Col	26	9	31	40
Roman Josi, San	39	13	27	40
Auston Matthews, Tor	33	25	15	40

NFL PLAYOFFS

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF ROUND
SATURDAY'S GAMES
No. 4 Cincinnati (11-7) at
No. 1 Tennessee (12-5), 4:30p.m.
No. 6 San Francisco (11-7) at
No. 1 Green Bay (13-4), 8:15p.m.
SUNDAY'S GAMES
No. 4 L.A. Rams (13-5) at
No. 2 Tampa Bay (14-4), 3p.m.
No. 3Buffalo (12-6) at
No. 2 Kansas City (13-5), 6:30p.m.

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Sunday, Jan. 30
AFC Championship Game, 3:10p.m.
NFC Championship Game, 6:40p.m.

SUPER BOWL LVI
Feb. 13 aSoFi Stadium,
Inglewood, Calif., 6:30p.m.

WILD CARD ROUND
SATURDAY, JAN. 15
No. 4Cincinnati 26, No. 5Las Vegas 19
No. 3Buffalo 47, No. 6 New England 17
SUNDAY, JAN. 16
No. 2Tampa Bay 31, No. 7 Phila. 15
No. 6 San Francisco 23, No. 3 Dallas 17
No. 2 Kansas City 42, No. 7 Pittsburgh 21
MONDAY, JAN. 17
No. 4 L.A. Rams 34, No. 5 Arizona 11

PLAYOFF TOP PERFORMERS
PASSING
404: Patrick Mahomes II,
KC vs. PIT 1/16 (30-39, 5 TD)
310: Derek Carr, LAS at CIN 1/15
(29-54, 1 TD)
308: Josh Allen, BUF vs. NE 1/15
(21-25, 5 TD)
RUSHING
96: Elijah Miethcill, SFat DAL 1/16
(27 car., TD)
83: Josh Jacobs, OAK at CIN 1/15
(13 car., 0 TD)
81: Devin Singletary, BUF vs. NE 1/15
(16 car., 2 TD)
72: Deebo Samuel, SF at DAL 1/16
(10 car., TD)
RECEIVING
117: Mike Evans, TB vs. PHI 1/16
(9 rec., 1 TD)
116: Ja'Marr Chase, CIN vs. LAS 1/15
(9 rec., 0 TD)
108: Travis Kelce, KC vs. PIT 1/16
(5 rec., 1 TD)

TAKE-AWAY GIVE-AWAYS

AFC	TAKE	GIVE	F	T	I	F	T	O
Cincinnati	13	8	21	14	7	21	0	
Tennessee	16	6	22	14	11	25	3	
Buffalo	19	11	30	16	6	22	+8	
Kansas City	15	14	29	13	12	25	+4	
NFC	I	F	T	I	F	T	O	
San Francisco	9	11	20	10	24	-4		
Green Bay	18	8	26	7	6	13	+13	
L.A. Rams	19	6	25	18	5	23	+2	
Tampa Bay	17	12	29	13	7	20	+9	
I=interceptions; F=fumbles; T-total take-away/giveaway; TO=turnover margin								

AFC	TAKE			GIVE		
	I	F	T	I	F	T
Cincinnati	13	8	21	14	7	21
Tennessee	16	6	22	14	11	25
Buffalo	19	11	30	16	6	22
Kansas City	15	14	29	13	12	25
NFC	I	F	T	I	F	T
San Francisco	9	11	20	10	10	24
Green Bay	18	8	26	7	6	13
L.A. Rams	19	6	25	18	5	23
Tampa Bay	17	12	29	13	7	20
I=interceptions; F=fumbles; T=total take-aways/giveaway; TO=turnover margin						
SCORING						
AFC OFFENSE	RUSH	REC	TOT	2-PT		
Cincinnati	16	36	54	1		
Tennessee	23	22	49	2		
Buffalo	20	36	57	3		
Kansas City	16	37	57	2		
NFC OFFENSE	RUSH	REC	TOT	2-PT		
San Francisco	22	26	50	2		
Green Bay	13	39	54	1		
L.A. Rams	10	41	52	2		
Tampa Bay	18	43	63	1		
through regular season						

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Thursday: at Butler, 9 p.m., FS1

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Friday: Seton Hall at Gampel, 7 p.m., SNY

UConn
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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Sanogo leading the way as Huskies face Butler rematch

By Shreyas Laddha

The UConn men's basketball team didn't give its fans any heart palpitations on Tuesday night. No. 25 UConn (12-4, 3-2 Big East) had a decisive 76-59 victory over Butler (9-8, 2-4) at the XL Center.

The Huskies led for all but 29 seconds of the game in what was by far their most decisive win against a Big East opponent this year.

Sophomore forward Adama Sanogo joined elite company Tuesday night when he finished with 13 points and 15 rebounds for this third straight double-double. According to Stats Perform, Sanogo is the first major conference player to have 15-plus rebounds and three-plus blocks in three straight games since Wake Forest's Tim Duncan in 1996-97.

On Monday, he was named the Big East player of the week after recording 26 points, 18 rebounds, and six blocks in an 88-78 overtime victory over St. John's last Wednesday, and 18 points and 16 rebounds in a 90-87 overtime loss to Seton Hall on Jan. 8.

Can Sanogo make it four straight in a rematch with Butler on Thursday? Here is what the Huskies need to take away from Tuesday's first win.

Polley rediscovers his touch

Guard Tyler Polley rediscovers his touch from 3-point land in the last couple of games, and that is an excellent sign for UConn moving forward. On Tuesday, Polley shot 2-for-4 from beyond the arc. He ended the first half while draining 3-pointer with a hand in his face. In his last three games, Polley is shooting 61.5% from three. He finished with 10 points on 4-for-7 shooting.

UConn's X-factor

Andre Jackson is one of the most intriguing players on the roster and with good reason. Jackson scored in double-digits in the last four games and hauled in tough rebounds using his fantastic leaping ability.

Jackson has NBA-level athleticism along with an elite-level passing ability that has lacked overall consistency on a game-to-game basis.

The most surprising thing is the development of his 3-point shot. Jackson drained three straight 3s in the first half against Butler. He currently is first on the team in 3-point percentage, shooting 52% from beyond the arc. Jackson shot 11.8% last season. Opponents have been leaving him open because they respect his driving ability, and he's been making them pay. Jackson finished with 12 points, 10 rebounds, and three assists on



Connecticut's Adama Sanogo (21) shoots as Butler's Bo Hodges (1) defends during the first half Tuesday in Hartford, Conn. **JESSICA HILL/AP**

Tuesday.

UConn coach Dan Hurley talked about how he and Sanogo are always in the gym working. For Jackson, he still thinks there's a lot to improve on.

"I think the double-double is nice, but I think I have got to be more of a defensive presence," Jackson said.

Fast break issues

It's crazy the number of times UConn forces a turnover leading to a fast break opportunity, then blows the layup or misses the shot. The Huskies' offense started slowly yet again Tuesday night. It wasn't helped by missed opportunities in transition. UConn needs to be more deliberate with the shots it takes on the fast break, as it often leads to other teams getting momentum and their own fast-break opportunity.

"Not finishing plays in transition has hurt us through the year," Hurley said. "We have to do a better job of that. We missed so many shots at the rim [Tuesday], and it was frustrating at times.

Though Tuesday's victory was a good game for UConn overall, it wasn't perfect. It's essential UConn doesn't rest on its laurels as the Huskies face Butler again, this time at Hinkle Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on Thursday. Here's what you need to know for the matchup.

The basics

No. 25 UConn vs. Butler
Time: 9 p.m. Thursday
Place: Hinkle Fieldhouse, Indianapolis
Series: UConn leads 4-0
Last meeting: UConn won, 76-59, on Tuesday at the XL Center
TV: FS1
Live Stream: Fox Sports app
Radio: UConn Sports Network (Mike Crispino, Wayne Norman). XM-385. SXM-app-975. 97.9-ESPN Hartford. WILI-1400-AM (Willimantic). WATR-1320-AM (Waterbury). WAVZ-1300-AM (New Haven). WGCH-1490-AM (Greenwich).

Butler (9-8, 2-4) probable starters, sixth man

Aaron Thompson, G, 6-2, Gr.; Jair Bolden, G, 6-3, Gr.; Jayden Taylor, G, 6-4, Fr.; Bryce Nze, F, 6-7, Gr.; Bryce Golden, F, 6-9, Sr.; Chuck Harris, G, 6-2, So.

No. 25 UConn (12-4, 3-2) probable starters, sixth man

R.J. Cole, G, 6-1, GS; Isaiah Whaley, F, 6-9, GS; Adama Sanogo, F, 6-9, So.; Tyrese Martin, G/F, 6-6, Sr.; Andre Jackson, G/F, 6-6, So.; Jordan Hawkins, G, 6-5, Fr.

The matchup

UConn offense: The Huskies must look for opportunities inside against a weak Butler interior defense and get Sanogo going early.

UConn defense: UConn must play better defense of the penetration caused by Butler guards.

Butler offense: UConn needs to do a better job on stopping Butler guards overall. The Huskies allowed Taylor and Simas Lukosius to combine for 36 points in their first matchup.

Butler defense: Butler had multiple fouls on UConn players because the Bulldogs couldn't guard the Huskies when they drove to the basket. UConn needs to keep doing that.

UConn's key: The Huskies need to drive to the rim, as it will either lead to opportunities against a weak interior defense or foul shots.

UConn player to watch: Jackson has started to pull it all together in the last couple of games, and it's essential to see if he can continue to be consistent moving forward.

About Butler's coach: LaVall Jordan played at Butler from 1998-2001. His first head coaching gig was at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Butler's mascot: The mascot is a bulldog, chosen in 1919.

Butler famous alumni: Former NBA player Shelvin Mack.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Scouts love Ivey's athleticism

Associated Press

Purdue's Jaden Ivey has not had any trouble finding ways to stay motivated even after playing his way into NBA lottery consideration.

No matter how high he rises on draft boards, Ivey continues to play as though he always has something to prove. After a victory over Nebraska last week, Ivey said he had fired himself up over a perceived lack of respect that followed No. 4 Purdue's recent losses.

Ivey has made it a point to try to diversify his game as much as possible.

Amore

from Page 1

Before he started playing for Albany Academy, Jackson sat down with Clymer and watched "The Pistol: The Birth of a Legend," a 1991 biographical film focusing on Maravich's eighth-grade season in 1959. Jackson says it changed his life.

Soon Jackson was watching and reading anything he could find on Maravich, who died in 1988. There's plenty out there — films, books, documentaries, even a song, "Pistol Pete" released by The Ziggens in 2002.

Jackson, now a sophomore, is just beginning to come into his own at UConn, hitting three 3-pointers and getting his first double-double in the Huskies' 76-59 win over Butler on Tuesday night. Before a game, you might see Jackson, averaging 7.9 points, 7.8 rebounds and 2.6 assists, doing a ball-handling trick from Maravich's 1987 instructional series, "Homework Basketball."

"Clyde showed me the video where Pistol Pete does all the dribbling drills," Jackson said. "The one where he throws the ball between his legs, all the different drills, and we began to work on those drills. The more I did, I got better at handling the ball, and I became a big fan of Pistol Pete because of the flair that he had in his game."

Maravich's scoring records at LSU have never been matched in NCAA Division I, including 3,667 career points and averaging 44.2 points per game from 1967-1970, long before the 3-point line. He averaged 24.2 points during his 10 years in the NBA before knee problems curtailed his career.

If you saw Maravich play, even on TV as a teenager as I did, you never forgot him and know there won't be another. But Jackson's admiration for Maravich, who played his last game 22 years before Jackson was born, is real. He wears No. 44 to honor the NBA Hall of Famer who wore that number with the Atlanta Hawks.

"He's before my time," said Jackson, about an inch taller at 6-foot-6. "But I've watched the movies probably 30 times. ... He used to do one thing where he'd throw it over his head and catch it between his legs from behind."

That was in a Roundball installment where Maravich displayed

possible.

The 6-foot-4 sophomore played his 40th career college game Monday when Purdue edged Illinois in double overtime. Ivey and Presbyterian's Rayshon Harrison are the only active Division I players with at least 500 points, 150 rebounds and 90 assists while playing 40 or fewer games.

Rated as the No. 89 prospect in his class according to composite rankings of recruiting sites compiled by 247Sports, Ivey wasted no time outperforming that projection while showcasing his athleticism.

his dribbling drills for Auerbach. Even UConn coach Dan Hurley practiced all of them while learning the game from his father, Bob, back in Jersey City.

Rare is the modern player who reaches back decades to find his idol, but the Jackson-Maravich connection makes sense on a few levels.

"Andre is very artistic," Hurley said. "He's a very creative thinker. It's a creative mind, and he needs the constant stimulation or he will get bored on you quickly. You have to challenge guys like that."

The challenge for Jackson has been to corral his creativity. There are times when he may be too strong a passer for his own good, passing up shots or delivering no-looks to teammates who are not ready.

"The thing that makes Andre's mistakes something I can live with is because how hard that guy plays," Hurley said. "The motor, the intensity, the energy, the activity, it's all there. You see the potential greatness in him. Obviously, the game gets away from him at times, he's a little bit reckless with the ball. You're in his ear, make sure you see the play in front of your before you deliver the ball."

Jackson has been determined to fix the flaws in his game, especially his perimeter shooting, after going 2-for-17 on 3-pointers as a freshman. With an offseason of tireless work in the Werth Center, he's 13 for 25 so far this season.

"I always have the basketball in my hand, even if I'm not in the gym," Jackson said. "I always have it around me. Like Pistol Pete said, the ball has to be an extension of your hand."

Maravich, who became a born-again Christian after retiring, was only 40 when he collapsed on the court playing a pickup game and later died from an undetected heart condition on Jan. 5, 1988. If he's looking down, one imagines he'd be delighted to find a player determined to play basketball the way he played it and the way he loved it.

"He made the game fun," Jackson said. "And he passed away playing the game. He passed away doing the thing he loved the most, and that's something I gravitate toward. He was a believer in God, as I am as well, a believer in Jesus, a great basketball player and my mentor."

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Donohue

from Page 1

that we were capable of more, so it wasn't really a question if we were going to keep going."

"Maddie and I are more focused, better trained, older, wiser ... Older. Older. Older. Older," he added, laughing. "I just turned 31. We've gained a lot of experience and knowledge through trial and error."

The pair, who has competed together for the last 11 years, finished second at the recent U.S. championships in Nashville, Tenn., behind Madison Chock and Evan Bates. Donohue and Hubbell, who had a career high score of 225.59,

were the reigning champions.

Donohue said the pair skated as well as they could.

"There were a couple mistakes in the short [program] and we finished knowing we'd have to skate a pretty much perfect free [program]," he said. "We skated an amazing free but the lead we took in the free wasn't enough to make up for the mistakes in the short."

It was an emotional performance for the two, knowing it would be their last national championships.

"It's the only time I've teared up after skating a program," Donohue said.

Donohue started skating at age 11 and teamed up with Hubbell in 2011. They went on to win three national

championships and finish second twice in the world championships, including in 2021, where they qualified for this year's Olympic Games.

During the national championships, a number of competitors tested positive for COVID-19 and had to withdraw, including reigning national pairs champions Alexa Knierim and Brandon Frazier. Donohue and Hubbell did not stay at the host hotel, which USA Today's Christine Brennan reported did not require masks and many people were not wearing them in the hotel.

"It was very stressful," Donohue said. "We were faced with the decision — 'It's too risky, we're not going out,' but at the same time, it's our last season and we wanted

to own that moment. I think we needed it, to be as prepared as possible for the Games."

China's COVID-19 protocol is very strict and if an athlete tests positive before they board their flight to the Olympics, they will most likely not be able to go.

So Donohue has hunkered down with his girlfriend in their apartment in Montreal and won't be going anywhere until he gets on a plane for China.

"We're living like hermits right now," he said. "It's been harder on my girlfriend than I. She's a trooper for dealing with this stuff. We have to do all these tests, avoid people, order this, order that, don't go out."

Donohue's mother still lives

in Madison and his brother in Norwich. He hasn't visited that much in the last few years due to the pandemic but plans to get back after the Olympics, when he can settle down to a more normal life.

But first, the culmination of their skating career awaits at the Capital Indoor Stadium in Beijing.

"We are definitely gunning for the podium," Donohue said. "It's going to be tough. We're shooting for the top. We're going to compete to win, but the focus isn't that. It's an amazing opportunity. We want to be fully present and enjoy the work we put in because it's our last Olympics."

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NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

McIlroy to borrow from Woods



Rory McIlroy made it something of a ritual to write his goals for the season on the back of his boarding pass on the flight to the Middle East for his first tournament of the year. For McIlroy, it's now about smaller objectives. And to see the bigger picture, he's used the player he has called his hero growing up, Tiger Woods, as a benchmark. "Not saying that my game compares to his in any way," McIlroy said of Woods, "but there are certainly aspects of what he did so well in the past that I would obviously love to put into my game." To that end, McIlroy thinks he needs to be "more of a measured and a controlled golfer." So, heading into his opening event of 2022 at the Abu Dhabi Championship starting Thursday, expect to see the four-time major champion be less aggressive off the tee, even if that potentially robs him of one of his best attributes — his driving distance. "I'll certainly pick and choose my spots where I can take advantage of the driver and hit it, but the best player of the last 30 years, Tiger, he picked and chose where he hit driver, and he played a very, very controlled game," McIlroy said. "It didn't work out too badly for him."

Forbes to upgrade Nuggets' shooting



The Nuggets acquired veteran wing player Bryn Forbes from the Spurs as part of a three-team deal that also included the Celtics. The Nuggets sent injured players Bol Bol and P.J. Dozier to Boston, and the Celtics dealt Juancho Hernangomez to San Antonio. The Spurs also will receive a future second-round draft pick from the Nuggets. The deal was first reported by ESPN. For the Nuggets, the move gives them a solid outside shooter in Forbes and the potential to add another player. The team is believed to have interest in veteran big man DeMarcus Cousins to help the frontcourt depth behind reigning NBA MVP Nikola Jokic for a playoff run. And for the Celtics, the move will mean getting much closer to dropping below the luxury tax threshold this season. The Nuggets were looking for more of an outside threat in a season when they are missing Jamal Murray (knee) and Michael Porter Jr. (back) due to injuries. Forbes is shooting 41.7% from 3-point range this season and averaging 9.1 points. Forbes, 28, has played in 37 career playoff games, including 20 last season during the Bucks' NBA Championship run.

Titans' Henry on verge of return



Derrick Henry, the man who literally ran the Titans to the AFC championship game two years ago, is ready to play again. The 2020 AP NFL Offensive Player of the Year says his surgically repaired right foot, fixed with a steel plate, feels no different than his left, and he's happy to be back on a football field. Just in time for Saturday's divisional playoff game against the Bengals. As long as the Titans make the final step, moving Henry from injured reserve to the active roster by Friday afternoon. Henry talking to reporters Wednesday for the first time since breaking his foot Oct. 31 sure seems a strong indicator he will be back in time for kickoff. So will he play Saturday? "See how this week goes, and we'll see where I'm at on Saturday," Henry said. This was the first time Henry had ever dealt with an injury during a football season. He called it "definitely shocking," though Henry simply turned his attention to surgery and working his way back. The injury cost him the final nine games of the season. The NFL's 2019 and 2020 rushing champ led the league again when he was injured, and Henry still finished with 937 yards. AP



Japan's Naomi Osaka reacts on a point against Madison Brengle at the Australian Open on Wednesday. MARTIN KEEPP/GETTY-AFP

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

On a collision course

Osaka, Barty advance toward showdown

By John Pye | Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — For the first set, Naomi Osaka's rediscovered love of the game meant it was anything but fun for Madison Brengle in the second round of the Australian Open. The defending champion conceded only four points in the first four games Wednesday and rifled forehand winners seemingly at will as she breezed to 6-0 in a mere 20 minutes. The second set started with Brengle celebrating a service hold like she'd finished a long-distance race, but gradually the No. 54-ranked American's keep-the-ball-in-play strategy ground down Osaka to a stage where she finally converted a break-point opportunity — after missing her first nine chances. That triggered a change in the former No. 1-ranked Osaka, who responded by breaking back immediately and reeling off the last nine points to complete a 6-0, 6-4 victory. She finished with 37 winners and 32 unforced errors. Osaka will next face Amanda Anisimova, a 20-year-old American who beat Olympic gold medalist Belinda Bencic 6-2, 7-5. The winner of that is likely to face top-ranked Ash Barty in the fourth round. Osaka won the Australian Open last year, her fourth Grand Slam title, but then withdrew from the French Open and skipped Wimbledon as she took a break for her mental health. She then was ousted early at the U.S. Open. After a long off-season to reset, she's

unbeaten in five matches in Australia this year. Asked how she rated her form, Osaka said that's not how she's approaching things. "Honestly I'm trying not to do that," she said in an on-court TV interview. "I'm a bit of a perfectionist. If I compare myself with the past, I'll never be satisfied. "The goal for me is just to have fun ... (and) I think we're accomplishing that." Since the draw for the first major of the year was made, a big focus has been on a potential match between Osaka and Barty, the 2021 Wimbledon and 2019 French Open champion who is aiming to be the first Australian woman since 1978 to win her home championship. Barty was front and center when the tournament celebrated its inaugural First Nations Day, albeit only for 52 minutes as she beat 142nd-ranked qualifier Lucia Bronzetti 6-1, 6-1. "It was nice for me to be a part of it in a way that I feel most comfortable," Barty, who has Indigenous heritage, said of the day dedicated to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of Australia. Rafael Nadal didn't get it all his own way in the subsequent match on Rod Laver Arena, needing five match points before beating 126th-ranked German qualifier Yannick Hanfmann 6-2, 6-3, 6-4. The sixth-seeded Nadal, aiming for a men's record 21st Grand Slam singles title, had two match points on Hanfmann's serve and two more on his own before finally clinching a spot in the third round when his rival sent a forehand long. AP's Bruce Matthews contributed.

At a glance

LOOKAHEAD TO THURSDAY: After wild-card entry Andy Murray beat Nikoloz Basilashvili in five sets to win a match at the Australian Open for the first time in five years, the personable Scotsman is aiming to make it two in three days. The five-time runner-up at Melbourne Park plays qualifier Taro Daniel. Second-seeded Daniil Medvedev will have a big test against local hope Nick Kyrgios, although it'll be on Rod Laver Arena rather than the mercurial Australian's preferred John Cain Arena. In the women's draw, second-seeded Aryna Sabalenka, U.S. Open champion Emma Raducanu and 2020 finalist and third-seeded Garbiñe Muguruza are all in action on Day 4.

WEDNESDAY'S KEY RESULTS
Women's Second Round: No. 1 Ash Barty beat Lucia Bronzetti 6-1, 6-1; No. 4 Barbora Krejickova beat Wang Xiyu 6-2, 6-3; No. 5 Maria Sakkari beat Zheng Qinwen 6-1, 6-4; No. 8 Paula Badosa beat Martina Trevisan 6-0, 6-3; No. 13 Naomi Osaka beat Madison Brengle 6-0, 6-4.

Men's Second Round: No. 3 Alexander Zverev beat John Millman 6-4, 6-4, 6-0; No. 6 Rafael Nadal beat Yannick Hanfmann 6-2, 6-3, 6-4; No. 7 Matteo Berrettini beat Stefan Kozlov 6-1, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1; Adrian Mannarino beat No. 10 Hubert Hurkacz 6-4, 6-2, 6-3; No. 14 Denis Shapovalov beat Kwon Soon-woo 7-6 (6), 6-7 (3), 6-7 (6), 7-5, 6-2.

STAT OF THE DAY
4:47: The match time in Sebastian Korda's 3-6, 6-4, 6-7 (2), 7-5, 7-6 (6) win over Corentin Moutet, the longest of several long five-setters on Day 3.

NFL INSIDE THE NUMBERS

Star QBs shine on wild-card weekend

By Josh Dubow | Associated Press

Josh Allen and the Bills pitched a near perfect game in their playoff victory against the Patriots. The Bills became the first team in NFL history to score touchdowns on their first seven drives of a playoff game before kneeling down on the final possession of a 47-17 win. Allen, the Chiefs' Patrick Mahomes and Matthew Stafford of the Rams all provided big passing days to highlight wild-card weekend. The Bills became the first team ever to go an entire game without a punt, a field goal, a turnover or getting stopped on fourth down, while scoring the most points ever against a defense coached or coordinated by Bill Belichick. Allen went 21 for 25 for 308 yards, five TDs and rushed for 66 yards, joining Kurt Warner (2009 season vs. Packers), Tom Brady (2007 season vs. Jaguars), Peyton Manning (2003 season vs. Broncos) and Daryle Lamonica (1969 season vs. Oilers) as the only starting QBs with more TD passes than incompletions in a playoff game. Mahomes provided his own highlights throwing five TD passes in a 42-21 win over the Steelers to join Lamonica and Kurt Warner as the only QBs ever to throw at least five touchdown passes in two playoff games. Mahomes' throws came in a span of just 11:31 of game time, the fastest anyone has thrown that many touchdowns in playoff history, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. The previous mark was held by Tom Brady, who did it in 24:56 against the Broncos in the 2011 playoffs. Stafford also had a strong playoff debut for the Rams, going 13 for 17 for 202 yards, two TDs and a 154.5 rating in a 34-11 win over the Cardinals that delivered Stafford his first playoff victory in 13 NFL seasons. Stafford joined Allen (157.6 rating) and Mahomes (138.2 rating) with big performances. The only other postseason when three starting QBs posted a rating of 135 or better in a game was in 1982 when Joe Theismann (vs. Lions), David Woodley (vs. Patriots) and Lynn Dickey (vs. Cardinals) all did it.



Josh Allen threw for five touchdowns in Saturday night's rout of the Patriots. JEFFREY T. BARNES/AP

Lopsided weekend

Wild-card weekend didn't provide a lot of drama with three of the six games decided by more than 20 points and another by 16. The average margin of victory in the six games was 17.2 points per game, making this the fourth most lopsided wild-card weekend since the playoffs expanded to 12 teams in 1990. Only 2016 (19 ppg), 1996 (17.5 ppg) and 2005 (17.3 ppg) had larger average scoring margins. The wins by at least 20 points for the Bills, Chiefs and Rams, leaving this season two shy of the 2002 season for the most playoff games decided by at least 20 points.

Dual threats

Travis Kelce and Odell Beckham Jr. showed off their arms as well as their catching skills. One day after Kelce became the first first player in NFL history to throw a touchdown pass, catch a TD pass and have at least 100 yards receiving in a playoff game in the Chiefs' win, Beckham showed off his dual-threat skills. Beckham threw a 40-yard pass to Cam Akers in the Rams win over the Cardinals on Monday night, becoming the first player in NFL history to have a catch and a pass for at least 30 yards in the same playoff game.

Bye bye, Big Ben




Ben Roethlisberger likely made the final appearance of his NFL career in the Steelers' playoff loss to the Chiefs. Roethlisberger joined Dan Marino and Andrew Luck as the only QBs since at least 1950 to make a playoff start as a rookie and in their final seasons, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. The 17-year gap between his first and last playoff start is the second biggest to Brady's 20-year gap. Roethlisberger will finish his career with 5,972 yards in the playoffs, trailing only Brady (12,720) and Manning (7,339). His 36 TD passes are seventh most.

Big man TDs

Even the big guys got in the act of scoring touchdowns in wild-card weekend. Chiefs offensive lineman Nick Allegretti and Bills offensive lineman Tommy Doyle both had TD catches, marking the second time since the merger that two offensive linemen had touchdown catches in a single postseason. The other time it happened was in the 2014 season when the Patriots' Nate Solder and Seahawks' Garry Gilliam did it. The only other offensive lineman with a TD catch in the playoffs since 2000 was the Titans' Dennis Kelly in the 2019 season.

WEATHER

THURSDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Morning light snow, becoming partly sunny in the afternoon. Northwest wind at 5 to 10 mph. 1 to 3 inches.

HIGH 32°
LOW 8°

FRIDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Partly sunny and unseasonably cold.

HIGH 20°
LOW 7°

SATURDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and cold.

HIGH 25°
LOW 13°

SUNDAY






SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mixed clouds and sunshine, seasonable.

HIGH 33°
LOW 13°

MONDAY







SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and a bit colder

HIGH 28°
LOW 15°

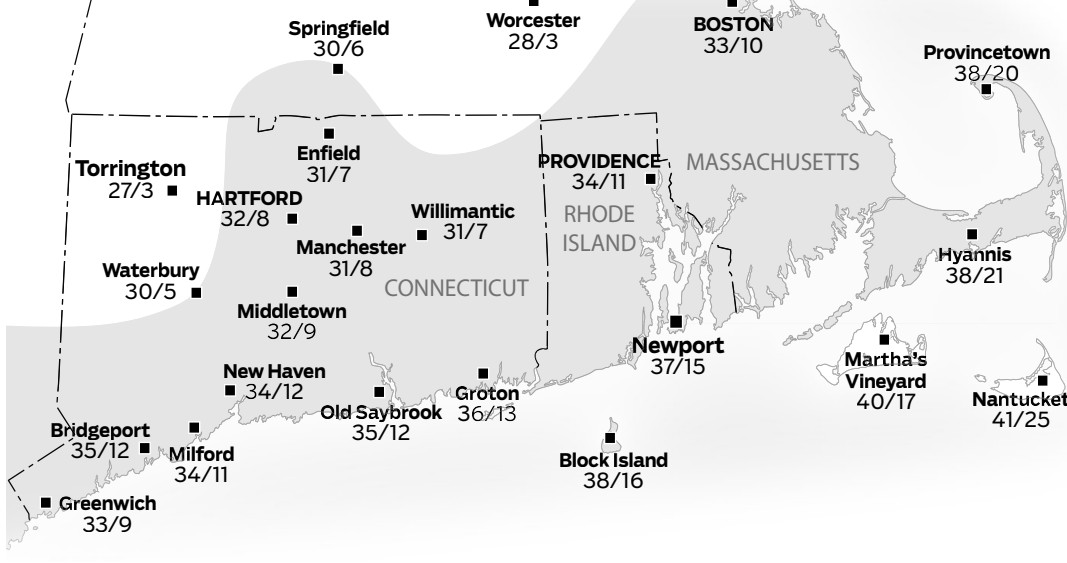
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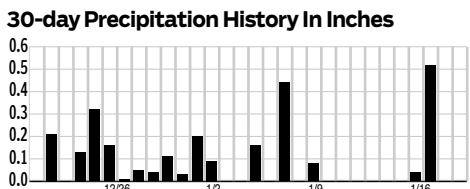
OUTLOOK

A cold front crossing the region this morning will cause light snow with a general 1 to 3 inch accumulation before high pressure ridges into the state and brings partial afternoon clearing. High temperatures will range from the mid-20s to the mid-30s. There will be a northwest wind at 5 to 10 mph. It will be partly cloudy and quite cold overnight with low temperatures in the single digits and low teens. It will be partly to mostly sunny and colder than normal on Friday and Saturday. Temperatures will briefly come close to seasonable levels on Sunday, then more cold air settles in for Monday.

-Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches	Total	Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.00	0.10
Month to date	1.53	2.07
Total this year	1.53	2.07
Snowfall In Inches		
Yesterday (by 4 p.m.)	0.0	0.4
Total this year	10.6	20.7
Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks		



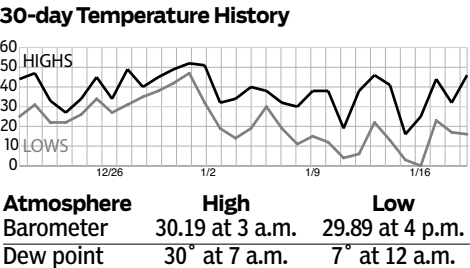
Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	10:57 a.m.	4:45 a.m.	37°
	11:27 p.m.	5:29 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	a.m.	5:38 a.m.	37°
	12:08 p.m.	6:22 p.m.	
Connecticut River at Portland	2:38 a.m.	9:24 a.m.	
	2:51 p.m.	10:08 p.m.	
Madison	12:10 a.m.	6:06 a.m.	36°
	12:21 p.m.	6:36 p.m.	
New Haven	12:30 a.m.	6:30 a.m.	36°
	12:41 p.m.	7:00 p.m.	
Stamford	12:34 a.m.	6:44 a.m.	39°
	12:45 p.m.	7:14 p.m.	

River Stage at Hartford: 4.33 feet at 6:30 p.m.

Boating	L.I. Sound W	L.I. Sound E	B.I. Sound
Weather	PCLoudy	PCLoudy	PCLoudy
Wind	NW, 10-15	NW, 10-15	NW, 10-15
Seas	1 ft.	2-3 ft.	3-5 ft.

Temperature	High	Low
Wednesday	46 at 3:45 p.m.	16 at 2:05 a.m.
Normal for date	35	18
Record for date	60 in 1951	-16 in 1948
A year ago	42	23
Range this year	52	0

Heating Degree Days	Season	Normal	Last Season
For July 1 - Jan 19	2529	2883	2564



AROUND THE WORLD

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND	25 -8 PC	Baltimore 37 13 SH	Nashville 34 19 C	San Juan 85 73 PC	Budapest 43 30 SH
Bangor 14 -11 PC	Bismarck 18 9 S	New Orleans 51 37 SH	Tucson 65 42 S	Buenos Aires 85 77 SH	London 42 29 S
Caribou 16 -17 PC	Boise 34 23 I	New York 31 16 I	Amsterdam 43 37 SH	Cairo 61 40 PC	Madrid 56 30 S
Concord 30 -5 PC	Buffalo 13 0 C	Okla. City 32 9 C	Atlanta 50 33 SH	Cancun 82 70 SH	Mexico City 71 50 PC
Montpelier 13 -16 C	Charleston 68 40 C	Orlando 78 56 S	Dallas 38 19 C	Dubai 76 66 PC	Milan 47 30 PC
Mt. Wash. 4 -13 PC	Cincinnati 30 12 PC	Pittsburgh 24 6 C	El Paso 46 24 PC	Edinburgh 41 35 S	Montreal 5-23 S
Portland 30 3 PC	Cleveland 21 8 C	Raleigh 49 24 SF	Houston 50 29 SH	Helsinki 34 25 SN	Moscow 29 22 C
Woods Hole 33 16 SF	Indianapolis 26 13 C	Salt Lake City 41 31 PC	San Antonio 41 28 SH	Istanbul 45 44 S	Nassau 78 73 SH
	Jacksonville 74 54 PC	San Diego 72 54 S	Bermuda 67 65 SH	Hong Kong 66 59 SH	New Delhi 70 51 PC
NATION	Las Vegas 63 44 S	Miami Beach 77 70 PC		Jerusalem 46 35 PC	Paris 45 34 PC
Albany 24 1 PC	Milwaukee 14 5 PC			Rio de Janeiro 84 76 SH	Prague 36 27 SN
Albuquerque 47 28 PC				Rome 54 44 S	Seoul 37 21 S
Atlantic City 34 13 SF				Singapore 91 75 PC	

YARD GOATS

Southington native Denorfia to return as manager

By Staff Report
Hartford Courant

Southington native Chris Denorfia will return as Hartford Yard Goats manager for a second consecutive season, the team announced on Wednesday.

Denorfia, 41, joined the Yard Goats, the Double-A affiliate of the Colorado Rockies, last season after spending

the 2019 season with the Chicago Cubs as quality assurance coach.

“We are really excited to have Chris back for another season as our manager,” Yard Goats general manager Mike Abramson said in the release. “It is nice to work with someone who knows our community so well and is so supportive to our fans and partners. Chris is really the complete package, and

we can’t wait to get going in 2022.”

Hartford also added two new coaches to the 2022 staff, including pitching coach and former New York Mets pitcher Blaine Beatty and bench coach Luis Lopez.

Beatty begins his fourth season in the Rockies’ organization. He was the pitching coach at Triple-A Albuquerque last season and served in a similar role at Grand

Junction in 2019.

Lopez begins his first season with the Rockies’ organization. Lopez played in parts of 11 seasons in the majors with San Diego (1993-94, 1996), the Mets (1997-99), Milwaukee (2000-02), Baltimore (2002, 2004) and Cincinnati (2005).

Hartford finished the 2021 season 39-79, last in the Double-A Northeast’s Northeast Division. Two play-

ers from 2021 roster reached the majors for Colorado: RHP Ryan Feltner and RHP Julian Fernandez.

In December, Baseball America named the Yard Goats the winner of the 2021 Double-A Bob Freitas Award, which recognizes the top minor league baseball franchises for their community involvement, long-term business success and consistent operational excellence.

TUESDAY'S LATE HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

BOYS BASKETBALL

CCC-Inter

*** Simsbury 44, Enfield 43**

ENFIELD (3-5): Kaden Birkett 2-2-6, Josiah Whaley 4-0-8, Fritz-Carly Andre 1-1-3, Isaiah Plummer 5-0-14, Alex Herron 2-0-4, Tighe Thebodeau 3-0-8. Totals 17-3-43.

SIMSBURY (7-1): Anthony Simpson 2-0-5, Aidan Rlordan 5-0-12, Keenan Willison 1-0-2, Chris Kokines 3-8-15, Alex Pepper 2-0-6, Giovanni Marchetti 2-0-4. Totals 15-8-44.

E 14 6 12 11 - 43

S 19 7 6 12 - 44

NCCC

*** Canton 63, East Windsor 58**

CANTON (4-3): Khalil Thomas 2-0-4, Brandon Powell 3-1-7, Matt Benedetti 1-0-2, Isaiah Reece 8-5-24, Connor Nadeau 3-0-8, Luke Maher 7-2-18. Totals 24-8-63.

EAST WINDSOR (1-4): Ryan Lee 4-0-10, Josh Maddox 3-6-12, Eric Wyse 2-3-9, Nick Parakilas 5-1-12, Alex Giannuzzi 0-1-1, Justin Rodriguez 4-0-8, Juelz Torress 3-0-6. Totals 21-11-58.

C 9 7 13 17 - 46

EW 17 15 9 23 - 63

Shoreline

*** Cromwell 55, Portland 51**

PORTLAND (4-5): Joe Rosczyk 8-0-17, Harrison Collins 3-0-6, Jake Thompson 3-0-7, Evan Johnson 1-0-3, Eli Evison 6-3-18. Totals 21-3-51.

CROMWELL (6-0): Gianluca Albert 5-9-20, Louis Friend 2-0-4, Victor Payne 9-2-22, JJ Fehan 0-0-0, Jake Salafia 3-0-9. Totals 19-11-55.

P 9 13 13 16 - 51

C 7 8 24 16 - 55

CRAL

*** University 65, Innovation 47**

UNIVERSITY (7-0): Norman Harris 2-0-4, Youisf Abdelgadir 6-1-15, Oqasim Ali 1-0-2, Jonathan Christian 1-1-4, Makinton Dolphin 3-0-9, Emmanuel Ikechukwu 5-0-13, Shalik Ceasar 5-0-10, Kauchey Reid 4-0-8. Totals 27-2-65.

INNOVATION (1-6): Amir Bolden 1-0-2, Lebron White 3-0-7, Adam Renta 4-1-9, Angel Maldonado 2-0-4, Amari Cruz 7-6-20, Jayden Newell-Kemp 1-0-2, Savion Johnston 1-0-3. Totals 18-7-47.

U 15 19 22 9 - 65

I 9 13 14 9 - 47

*** Classical 55, Civic Leadership 47**

CLASSICAL (5-2): Shermarr Clarke 1-0-2, Manny Acheampong 5-1-11, Josiah Perez-Henry 2-0-5, Dwight Biggs 1-1-3, Nazier Williams 8-3-24, Isaiah Waring 5-0-10. Totals 22-5-55.

CIVIC LEADERSHIP (1-6): Kyon McCray 1-1-4, Noah Hicks 5-4-17, Cam Morlie 1-0-2, Chris Norton 6-0-14, Donovan Brown 2-0-5, Javier Negron 1-2-5. Totals 16-7-47.

C 18 11 14 12 - 55

CL 16 14 7 10 - 47

Others

*** Farmington 86, Torrington 45**

FARMINGTON (6-3): Jordan Anthony 5-0-11, E.J. Sanchez 1-0-2, Jahkai Veal 4-0-9, Nico Augustino 1-4-6, Chad Rizzo 5-0-14, Jared Young 11-1-29, Nick Duncan 5-3-13, Tobin Grande 1-0-2. Totals 33-8-80.

TORRINGTON (4-5): DJ Williams 1-1-3, Pete Duman 1-2-4, Jordan Harvey 6-0-15, Allen Smith 1-4-5, Thaddeus Kimberley 5-1-14, Jose Millord 1-0-3, AJ Starr 0-1-1, William Parkhouse 1-0-3. Totals 17-3-46.

F 14 17 33 22 - 86

T 19 11 10 5 - 45

GIRLS BASKETBALL

CCC-Inter

*** E.O. Smith 51, Hall 31**

E.O. SMITH (8-3): Jillian Dingler 1-0-3, Olivia Verboven 1-0-3, Paige Raynor 1-1-4, Kate McAvoy 4-0-9, Jenna Boardman 2-0-4, Claire Greene 6-0-14, Mira Mahmood 1-1-3, Lilli Clark 2-1-5, Isabella Mallory Allen 3-0-6. Totals 21-3-51.

HALL (2-4): Meghan Murray 1-0-2, Rylan Priest 1-2-4, McKenzie Mandycyk 3-3-10, Julia Zydanowicz 1-4-6, Anna Scililiano 1-0-2, Abigail Magendantz 3-0-7. Totals 10-9-31.

EOS 6 15 17 13 - 51

H 8 6 6 11 - 31

NCCC

*** Somers 41, Rockville 27**

ROCKVILLE (3-6): Layla Tate 1-0-3, Sara Stone 1-2-4, Julia Szuminski 2-4-10, Anaya Tortorello 2-2-2, Caitlin Chatterton 1-0-2, Jenny Forski 3-0-6. Totals 8-8-27.

SOMERS (7-1): Sydney Cassidy 4-2-11, Deirdre Dalessio 1-0-3, Devon Dalessio 1-0-3, Eliana Wood 4-5-14, Grace Majowicz 1-2-4, Halle Watt 2-0-4. Totals 14-9-41.

R 11 5 5 6 - 27

S 8 12 6 15 - 41

Note: Watt and Majowicz each had 10 rebounds and Wood had 8 rebounds, 3 blocks.

*** Granby 40, Suffield 29**

GRANBY (5-3): Fern Jansen 2-0-5, Sav Rijks 1-0-2, Katie Murach 1-0-2, Kayla Bolduc 3-0-6, Liz Squier 1-0-2, Kayla Dillan Boyd 3-2-10, Nielle Reaves 6-2-15, Davis 3-0-6, Alyssa Bordonaro 8-1-17.

Totals 19-1-40.

SUFFIELD (3-4): Jordan Dion 3-3-10, Lexi Mailloux 1-0-3, Cami Bosco 1-1-3, Ava Toomey 3-3-9, Liv Matthews 0-3-3, Lily Johnson 0-1-1. Totals 8-11-29.

G 8 10 12 10 - 49

S 8 6 9 6 - 20

*** Canton 41, East Windsor 25**

EAST WINDSOR (4-4): Zoe Pepin 0-1-1, Bailey Winner 6-0-12, Sam Corrado 0-2-2, Alex Witzke 1-0-2, Katie Blume 4-0-8. Totals 11-3-25.

CANTON (2-4): Avery Brown 5-2-13, Ashelyn Cebollero 1-0-2, Jenna Cunio-wski 7-3-17, Gabby DelSanto 1-1-4, Sophia Mates 1-1-3, Rachel Renaud 1-0-2. Totals 16-7-41.

Shoreline

*** Haddam-Killingworth 51, Coginchaug 46(OT)**

COGINCHAUG (5-3): Sophie Farr 1-0-3, Serena Fournier 2-2-6, Katie Farr 5-1-11, Mia Poturnicki 3-1-7, Allison Strang 2-0-4, Chloe Shafir 5-4-13. Totals 18-8-46.

HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH (2-7): Cheyenne LaTouche 5-1-11, Ella Commerford 1-0-3, Julia Favalora 7-4-21, Kaleigh Bodak 2-3-7, Audra Yazmer 0-3-3, Ana Garcia 2-0-4, Ava Ramino 2-1-5. Totals 19-12-51.

C 11 9 10 12 4 - 46

HK 10 9 11 15 9 - 51

*** Morgan 50, Hale-Ray 27**

HALE-RAY (0-7): Brooke Praskiewicz 4-6-17, Kayla Bartolotta 0-0-0, Nicole Sikorski 0-0-0, Gabby Aguilera 3-0-6, Jennafaye Haentjens 2-0-4. Totals 9-6-27.

MORGAN (5-4): Caeley Ayer 5-2-13, Eva O'Sullivan 2-0-6, Ava Johnson 5-4-16, Katie Martin 2-1-5, Sofie Passante 4-0-10. Totals 18-7-50.

M 5 9 9 4 - 27

HR 16 9 16 9 - 50

CRAL

*** Achievement First 35, MLC 16**

MLC (0-1): Natalia Dupiton 4-1-9, Tene McFarlane 0-1-1, Aaliyah Graves 0-2-2, Deajah Minnifield 0-0-4, Dominique Pierre-Emile 0-0-0. Totals 6-4-16.

ACHIEVEMENT FIRST (2-4): Alicyn King 0-0-0, Desire Cunningham 1-1-4, Harmonee Griffin 2-0-5, De'Asiah Jones 6-0-15, Arya Grace-Pearson 3-5-11. Totals 12-6-35.

M 8 0 6 2 - 16

AF 9 10 8 8 - 35

SCC

*** Mercy 54, Hillhouse 46**

MERCY (7-2): Avery Kohs 3-1-8, Sophie Hedge 6-2-16, Kate Donlan 1-0-3, Ava Giansiracusa 5-2-15, Melina Ford 3-1-7, Caelyn McMahon-Egan 1-0-3, Mercedes Artail 1-0-2. Totals 20-6-54.

HILLHOUSE (5-5): Ryan Young 2-0-4, Dillion Boyd 3-2-10, Nielle Reaves 6-2-15, T'ajay Lloyd 1-2-4, Trinity Moody 5-2-12,

A'Lice Bradley 0-1-1. Totals 17-9-46.

M 14 6 17 17 - 54

H 12 11 6 17 - 46

ECC

*** Bacon Academy 62, Stonington 32**

BACON ACADEMY (9-1): Ashley Lizotte 5-0-11, Valerie Luizzi 7-0-16, Emily Ferrigno 1-0-2, Marissa Nudd 5-7-17, Cara Shea 2-0-4, Elizabeth Glover 2-1-5, Emma Mancuso 3-0-6. Totals 25-8-61.

STONINGTON (4-7): Sophia Fernholz 2-0-5, Gabby Dimock 5-2-13, Rory Risley 1-0-2, Emily Obrey 2-1-5, Presley Smith 2-0-4, Sierra Lund 2-0-4. Totals 14-3-32.

BA 16 16 16 13 - 61

S 6 4 8 14 - 32

WEDNESDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

BOYS BASKETBALL

CCC-North

*** Bloomfield 78, Newington 73**

CCC-East

*** East Catholic 68, Enfield 49**

NCCC

*** East Granby 50, Coventry 42**

SCC

*** Hillhouse 78, Xavier 58**

Others

*** Manchester 77, Cheney Tech 40**

CHENEY TECH (4-4): Kymani Thomas 1-0-2, Xavier McCall 3-3-9, Damnic Gittens 2-0-4, Omar Rios 4-1-9, Kelvin Rios 1-2-4, Justin Szrensa 1-0-2, Dazshawn Copeland 2-1-5, Calvin Henderson 1-0-3, Adam Mulholland 1-0-2. Totals 16-7-40.

MANCHESTER (6-2): Laquonne Thames 2-0-4, Troy Butler 7-3-18, Jared Lindstrom 7-4-18, Adrian Parker 2-0-4, Jayden Cerosimo 4-1-10, Vinny Cavallo 2-0-4, Damian Sanchez 7-0-17, Lucas Ryan 1-0-2. Totals 32-8-77.

CT 12 12 8 8 - 40

MT 22 16 30 9 - 77

Note: Lindstrom had a double-double with 12 rebounds, Thames had 7 steals and Sanchez had 6 steals.

*** HMTCA 45, Bulkeley 40**

BULKELEY (1-8): Tyrell Malone 6-3-18, Kyron Whitaker 1-0-3, Jephthe Antoine 3-3-9, Martin Aponte 5-0-10. Totals 15-6-40.

HMTCA (4-6): Seth Moore 0-3-3, Christian Smith 4-2-10, Eyad Anver 6-0-12, Josh O'Neal 5-1-11, Derrick Sheets 2-2-7, Corey Jerriick 1-0-2. Totals 18-8-45.

B 9 8 11 12 - 40

H 15 11 8 11 - 45

*** Sheehan 68, Tolland 41**

*** Achievement First 74, East Hampton 39***

*** Ellington 64, Lyman Memorial 48**

*** Portland 54, Simsbury 50**

GIRLS BASKETBALL

NCCC

*** Coventry 53, East Granby 26**

CRAL

*** Parish Hill 61, Achievement First 29**

ACHIEVEMENT FIRST (2-5): Harmonee Griffen 5-0-15, De'asiah Jones 3-1-8, Arya Grace-Pearson 3-0-6, Leeann Powell 0-0-0, Kehara Robinson 0-0-0. Totals 11-1-29.

PARISH HILL (7-3): Kristie Zator 10-8-28, Lexi Smardon 5-0-10, Ashlyn Kemp 4-0-8, Grace Quinn 2-1-5, Brooke Provost-Spickler 2-0-4, Kaelyn Pearl 2-0-4, Charley Bennett 1-0-2. Totals 26-9-61.

AF 8 3 8 10 - 29

PH 22 19 8 12 - 61

Note: Zator (24rebounds) and Smardon (11rebounds) both had double-doubles. Kemp had 6assists.

*** Capital Prep 46, Innovation 11**

CAPITAL PREP (3-3): Sienna Cooke 4-0-10, Sanai Walford 10-2-22, Ashlyn Gordon 0-0-0, Nyah Howard 4-0-10, Trinity Coats 2-0-4. Totals 18-2-46.

INNOVATION (0-8): Kaylah Forde 1-0-2, Karina Falcon 1-0-3, Te'jah Roberts 2-2-6, Izzy Chaparro 0-0-0, Patrina McHugh 0-0-0. Totals 4-2-11.

CP 16 12 12 6 - 42

I 2 4 3 2 - 11

*** Civic Leadership 46, MLC 18**

Others

*** Stafford 45, Putnam 20**

STAFFORD (6-0): Jordan Huntley 1-0-2, Raina Caro 1-1-4, Camden Smith 4-4-13, Jaelyn Moulton 3-2-10, Zoi Artsaga 1-0-2, Drea Oswell 6-2-14. Totals 16-9-45.

PUTNAM (1-9): Lily Goyette 5-1-11, Emily St. Martin 1-1-3, Melodie Anderson 1-0-2, Maddie Lamothe 2-0-4. Totals 9-2-20.

S 5 19 16 5 - 45

P 2 4 3 11 - 20

Of note: Smith had a double-double with 17rebounds, Moulton had 5steals and Oswell had 6rebounds.

*** Hand 57, Farmington 37**

BOYS HOCKEY

Others

*** Xavier 7, St. Joseph 4**

*** Newington co-op 8, Housatonic co-op 4**

GIRLS HOCKEY

CCC

*** Simsbury 3, Conard/Hall 1**

*** East Catholic co-op 2, Avon co-op 2**

SCC

*** Guilford 4, Hand co-op 3**

WRESTLING

CCC-East

*** Enfield 51, E.O. Smith 23**

NCCC

*** Canton 42, Suffield/Windsor Locks 21**

SCC

*** Xavier 68, Foran 9**

ECC

*** Windham 52, Bacon Academy 26**

Others

*** Portland 42, Stafford 30**

*** Stafford 3, Cromwell 0**

*** Enfield 60, Nonnewaug 6**

BOYS SWIMMING

CCC-Inter

*** Southington 94, Newington 80**

Note: Landon Colby (200/500free) and Alex LeClair (200IM/100breast) were double winners for Southington.

THURSDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

BOYS BASKETBALL

CCC-East: E.O. Smith at Manchester, 6:45p.m.

CCC-Inter: Bristol Eastern at Conard, 6:45p.m.

NCCC: East Windsor at Somers, 6p.m.

Shoreline: Valley Regional at Old Lyme, 4p.m.; Hale-Ray at North Branford, 7p.m.

CTC: O'Brien Tech at Wilcox Tech, 7p.m.

CRAL: Weaver at University, 5:30p.m.

MLC: Aerospace, 6p.m.; Innovation at Civic Leadership, 6:15p.m.

Achievement First at Classical, 7p.m.

SCC: Law at Hand, 7p.m.

ECC: Windham at Griswold, 7p.m.

Others: Capital Prep at Springfield Central (Mass.), 4p.m.; Goodwin Tech at Berlin, 6:30p.m.; Bacon Academy at Norwich Tech, 6:45p.m.; Rockville at Windham Tech, 7p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

CCC-Inter: Bloomfield at Simsbury, 5:30 p.m.; Maloney at Hartford Public, 5:30 p.m.; RHAM at Avon, 5:30p.m.

Bristol Central at New Britain, 5:45p.m.

Southington at Enfield, 6:45p.m.

Conard at Bristol Eastern, 6:45p.m.

Hall at South Windsor, 6:45p.m.

NCCC: Coventry at SMSA, 5:15p.m.

Somers at Granby, 6:45p.m.

Shoreline: Old Lyme at Valley Regional, 4p.m.

SCC: Cheshire at North Haven, 7p.m.

Shelton at Lyman Hall, 7p.m.

Others: Aerospace at East Windsor, 3:30p.m.; Bolton at East Catholic, 5 p.m.; Wilcox Tech at Platt, 5:30p.m.

Amistad at Middletown, 5:30p.m.

Ansonia at East Hartford, 6p.m.

HMTCA at Innovation, 6p.m.

Berlin at Ellington, 6:45p.m.

Windham Tech at Rockville, 6:45p.m.

Windsor at Holy Cross, 7p.m.

Newington at Cromwell, 7p.m.

WRESTLING

NCCC: Stafford at Canton, 6p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

CCC-West: Farmington at Glastonbury, 4 p.m.

BOYS SWIMMING

SCC: Lyman Hall/Coginchaug, Foran/ Law at Sheehan, 3:45p.m.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

CCC: Southington at Conard, 5p.m.

SCC: Mercy, Hamden at Law, 6p.m.

Hartford Courant

FLAVOR

LIVING



Biscuit-topped turkey chili in a cast-iron skillet doesn't need hours of simmering. It's weeknight fast. DAVID MALOSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Chili and biscuits — ALL IN ONE PAN

By Melissa Clark
The New York Times

Cooking a big pot of beef, beans and spices for hours may be one of the most traditional ways to make chili. But it's not the only way, and it's not what I've been doing lately as my beef consumption continues to plummet.

To my mind, once you have all those beans and onions and chiles and spices simmering away, adding beef to the pot is simply a waste. I eat beef so infrequently that, when I do, I want it to be the star of the plate — a

rare steak, a juicy burger, tender morsels of short rib or brisket dripping their heady gravy onto my generously buttered noodles. Or maybe I'll even go for a pot of beef chili without any beans at all (which, according to multitudes in Texas and beyond, is the only acceptable way to prepare it).

Instead, I usually stick to bean chilies that are either vegetarian or spiked with a little ground turkey or chicken for flavor and heft.

I also forgo the hours of simmering because, when it's cooked in a wide skillet instead of a deep pot, the whole thing

comes together weeknight fast, in about an hour.

For this exceptionally cozy version, I crown the chili with cornmeal biscuits before baking. It's a bit like a tamale pie, an American classic that has nothing to do with Latin American tamales and everything to do with streamlined one-pot meals.

When nestled on top of the chili, the biscuits stay softer underneath than they would if baked separately on a pan — a welcome contrast to their crisp and golden tops.

For this recipe, I did include some ground turkey (or chicken),

but feel free to leave it out and add an extra can or two of beans instead. Another possible poultry option is ground duck, which adds loads of depth but can be hard to find. And fake meat works perfectly here as well.

If you're a planner, you can make the cornmeal batter and the chili several hours ahead — or even the night before — then bake them together right before serving, so the biscuits are at their most tender. A dollop of sour cream or yogurt at the end isn't strictly necessary, but the cool milkiness is lovely with the spicy, meaty — or meatless — chili.

One-pot turkey chili and biscuits

Makes: 4 to 6 servings
Total time: 1 hour
For the biscuits:
1 cup all-purpose flour
⅔ cup fine cornmeal
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon sugar
½ teaspoon fine sea or table salt
¼ teaspoon baking soda
8 tablespoons cold, unsalted butter, cut into ½-inch cubes
¾ cup buttermilk or plain whole-milk yogurt
1 scallion, thinly sliced, plus more for serving
Milk or more buttermilk or yogurt, for finishing
2 tablespoons grated Parmesan, for finishing
For the chili:
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 pound ground turkey
1 large yellow onion, diced
1 jalapeño, seeded (if desired) and diced
3 garlic cloves, finely grated, passed through a press or minced
1 tablespoon chili powder
1 ½ teaspoons fine sea or table salt, plus more to taste
1 teaspoon dried oregano
¾ teaspoon ground cumin
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1 (14 ½-ounce) can whole plum tomatoes (1 ¾ cups)
2 (15-ounce) cans pinto or black beans, drained and rinsed
½ cup chopped fresh cilantro leaves and tender stems
Sour cream (or Greek yogurt) and pickled jalapeños, for serving (optional)

1. Prepare the biscuits: In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, cornmeal, baking powder, sugar, salt and baking soda.

2. Using a pastry cutter or your hands, cut or rub in the butter until mixture resembles rolled oats. Fold in the buttermilk and scallion. Gently stir mixture until it comes together in a moist, sticky mass. Cover bowl and refrigerate until ready to use.

3. Heat oven to 425 degrees.

4. Start chili: In a large ovenproof skillet, heat oil over high heat until it thins. Stir in turkey and cook, breaking up meat with a wooden spoon, until it's no longer pink with some browned bits, 7 minutes.

5. Reduce heat to medium-high, add onion and jalapeño, and cook until translucent and tender, about 5 minutes. Stir in garlic, chili powder, 1 teaspoon salt, oregano, cumin and pepper, and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute longer.

6. Using kitchen shears or your hands, break up tomatoes and add them, along with juices, to pan. Add beans and remaining ½ teaspoon salt, and scrape up any brown bits on bottom of pan. Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer until slightly thickened, 3 to 5 minutes. If mixture seems very dry, add a few tablespoons water. It should be juicy-looking but not wet. Remove from heat and stir in cilantro. Taste and add more salt, if needed.

7. Divide biscuit dough into 6 equal balls. Use your palm to flatten each ball into ¾-inch-thick disk. Arrange on top of chili. Brush biscuits lightly with milk, and sprinkle grated Parmesan on top. Transfer skillet to oven and cook until biscuits are golden at the edges, 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool for 10 minutes before serving. Serve with sour cream and pickled jalapeños, if you like, and more scallions.

Easy ragu is sure to become a dinner go-to

By Sheela Prakash
TheKitchn.com

When it comes to Italian comfort food, a bowl of spaghetti tossed with a tomato-rich meat sauce ranks high. If I've got the time, I love spending the afternoon slowly simmering a Bolognese sauce. More often than not, though, a packed schedule means

dinner needs to be a much faster affair.

This quick and easy spaghetti sauce is a total weeknight win. It's as satisfying as a slow-simmered pasta sauce but comes together in less than 45 minutes — including the time it takes to boil a box of spaghetti.

How do you make spaghetti

sauce?

Simple is the name of the game here. To make this spaghetti sauce, you'll saute chopped onion, minced garlic, lean ground beef and classic Italian spices like dried oregano and red pepper flakes in a large skillet until the meat is browned and cooked through. Then you'll pour in a large can of crushed

tomatoes and let the mixture simmer gently while you cook the spaghetti.

What's the secret ingredient for spaghetti sauce?

A quick simmer means you'll miss out on the depth of flavor that comes with slowly simmering a pasta sauce for hours. However, stirring a splash of

balsamic vinegar into the sauce right before you toss it with the spaghetti might make you forget the whole thing came together so quickly. Balsamic vinegar's richness amps up the meat sauce, giving it the body, sweetness and balance of a sauce that's cooked for much longer.

Turn to Spaghetti, Page 2

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PUBLISHING



A coating of cornstarch and oil — plus a long stint in a hot oven — mimics the deep fryer for this tofu sheet-pan dinner. **KATE SEARS/ THE NEW YORK TIMES**

Crisp-edged tofu straight from your oven

By **Melissa Clark**
The New York Times

I used to be convinced that the only way to get truly crisp tofu was to fry it. I'd roasted it and broiled it, but I was never able to achieve those burnished, crisp corners that a pan full of screaming-hot oil reliably delivered.

Then I tried a technique from Jenny Rosenstrach's excellent cookbook, "The Weekday Vegetarians," and everything changed.

The method involved coating tofu cubes with a mix of oil and cornstarch before roasting them at high heat. It was the cornstarch that made the difference. When

roasted without it, the tofu turns brown but stays soft. It's the starch that adds the crunch, without splattering oil all over my stove and floor the way frying would. I was hooked.

The beauty of this recipe, other than the crunch, is how adaptable it is. You can spike the cornstarch mix with all kinds of seasonings. Rosenstrach uses soy sauce. For this recipe, I added a mix of garlic powder and oregano. I've also tried preparing it with other spices or citrus zest, a dash of fish sauce or another of chile oil, and they worked beautifully, too.

Similarly, you can use either extra-firm or firm tofu. Extra-firm gets crunchier on the outside but stays more rigid inside. Firm

has a more pillowlike and squishy core. Just avoid soft tofu, which holds too much moisture to really brown.

Once you've got the crisp and salty tofu cubes, there's loads of ways to use them — as croutons on a salad, stuffed into sandwiches, mixed into stir-fried vegetables, eaten by the handful when no one is looking (try to save some for dinner).

In this version, I added tomatoes and onions to the baking pan. Then, to lend a fruity, bright note, I drizzled the vegetables with balsamic vinegar, which condensed into a sweet-tart glaze.

You can swap other vegetables for the tomatoes and onions, just as long as they'll cook in the same amount of time as the tofu

Crispy tofu with balsamic tomatoes

Makes: 2 to 3 servings
Total time: 40 minutes, plus at least 15 minutes of draining
1 (14- to 16-ounce) package extra-firm or firm tofu, cut crosswise into 1-inch-thick slices
1½ teaspoons kosher salt (Diamond Crystal), plus more as needed
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, plus more as needed
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for finishing
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1 teaspoon garlic powder (optional)
1 teaspoon dried oregano
1 pint cherry tomatoes, halved if large, kept whole if small
1 large red onion, cut into ¼-inch wedges (about 2 cups)
3 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
1½ teaspoons balsamic vinegar, plus more for finishing
½ cup fresh cilantro or parsley leaves and tender stems, roughly chopped

1. Heat oven to 400 degrees and line a sheet pan with parchment paper.

2. Arrange tofu slices on a clean kitchen towel or on paper towels. Cover with another kitchen towel (or paper towels) and place a flat cutting board or baking pan on top. If your cutting board or pan is lightweight, stack a few cans or a skillet on top to weigh it down. Let tofu drain for at least 15 minutes, and up to 45 minutes.

3. Transfer tofu to a cutting board and cut slabs into 1-inch cubes. Pat them dry with paper towels and season both sides of the tofu with ¾ teaspoon of the salt and ¼ teaspoon black pepper.

4. In a medium mixing bowl, whisk together 1 tablespoon oil, cornstarch, garlic powder (if using) and ½ teaspoon of the oregano. Add tofu to cornstarch mixture and gently toss until tofu is evenly coated. Dump tofu onto one side of the prepared sheet pan.

5. In a large bowl, toss together tomatoes, onion, garlic, balsamic vinegar, remaining ½ teaspoon oregano, ¾ teaspoon salt and ¼ teaspoon pepper. Drizzle in the remaining 2 tablespoons of the oil, tossing to combine.

6. Arrange vegetables on other side of the prepared sheet pan. Bake until tofu is crisp and golden brown, and tomatoes are condensed, 25-35 minutes. Halfway through baking, flip tofu and toss vegetables while keeping the tofu and veggies separate.

7. To serve, sprinkle cilantro on top and drizzle with balsamic and oil, if you'd like.

— 25-35 minutes. Try chunks of mushroom, cauliflower florets, red pepper strips or thin slices of winter squash.

This recipe serves two hungry people or three moderately hungry ones. If you double it, use two baking sheets and add a few extra minutes to the roasting time.

All in all, this does take longer than frying, but any extra cooking time is made up for by less cleanup time — a trade-off I'm always willing to make for a dinner this good.



Stir a splash of balsamic vinegar into the sauce right before you toss it with the spaghetti. **CHRISTOPHER TESTANI/THEKITCHN.COM**

Spaghetti

from Page 1

Spaghetti with meat sauce

Makes: 4 to 6 servings
1 medium yellow onion
3 cloves garlic
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 pound lean ground beef
1½ teaspoons kosher salt, divided, plus more for the pasta water
½ teaspoon dried oregano
¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
¼ teaspoon red pepper flakes (optional)
1 (28-ounce) can crushed tomatoes
1 pound dried spaghetti
2 teaspoons balsamic vinegar
Freshly grated Parmesan cheese, for serving

1. Finely chop 1 medium yellow onion and mince 3 garlic cloves. Heat 1

tablespoon olive oil in a large high-sided skillet over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add the onion, garlic, 1 pound lean ground beef, 1 teaspoon of the kosher salt, ½ teaspoon dried oregano, ¼ teaspoon black pepper and ¼ teaspoon red pepper flakes, if using. Cook, breaking the beef up into small pieces with a wooden spoon, until the beef is cooked through, 5 to 7 minutes.

2. Carefully pour in 1 (28-ounce) can crushed tomatoes and season with remaining ½ teaspoon kosher salt. Bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to medium-low and gently simmer uncovered until the sauce is slightly thickened, about 20 minutes.

3. Meanwhile, bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add 1 pound dried spaghetti and cook for 1 minute less than the

package instructions for al dente, about 9 minutes. Reserve 1 cup of the pasta cooking water and drain the spaghetti.

4. Return the pasta to the pot. Add the sauce, reserved pasta cooking water and 2 teaspoons balsamic vinegar, and toss to combine. Bring to a simmer over medium heat, tossing continuously, until the sauce coats the pasta and everything is evenly combined, 1 to 2 minutes. Serve in bowls topped with lots of grated Parmesan cheese.

Note: The sauce, without the pasta water, can be made a day in advance and stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator. Alternatively, it can be frozen for up to three months. Let the sauce thaw in the refrigerator overnight. Rewarm the sauce in a saucepan over medium heat while you cook the pasta.

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For Greek reds, the embrace will be slow

Education will have to precede broad acceptance

By Eric Asimov
The New York Times

Few wines seem quite so unfamiliar and mystifying to Americans as those from Greece. It's no mystery why they are unfamiliar. Greek wines are fairly new to the global marketplace, particularly the red wines. Given that Greece is one of the most ancient wine-producing cultures, that seems like a bit of a paradox. But as historic wine-producing countries around the world have learned, local traditions of making and enjoying wines are not enough to succeed in the worldwide wine trade. Producers must develop systems of production and distribution that guarantee virtually impeccable quality halfway around the world before they can even hope to find a foreign clientele curious enough to buy their wines. Once they do, they can begin the perhaps equally arduous process of education and marketing in hopes of creating demand. That's where Greece is right now. Over the last third of the 20th century, a Greek wine industry arose that was focused on high quality and the ability to sell bottles internationally. Just as important, many of the best producers are concentrating on indigenous grapes rather than trying their hand at overly familiar international varieties and styles, though some of that is happening as well. But many consumers seem as if they are not ready to make the leap to these Greek wines, particularly the reds, which for the most part are newer to the American marketplace than the whites. Why is that? Readers who have been drinking Greek reds over the last month had a few theories. "Even though Greek wine quality has come a long way in the past 20 years or so, it's still an educational uphill battle," said TLeaf of Denver. "How to get the American palate to taste past the notions of ouzo and retsina?" Maybe I'm naïve, but I don't believe that most American wine consumers are stymied by memories of ouzo, an anise spirit that was often handed out liberally in shtick-heavy Greek restaurants

after meals. Nor do I think they confuse other Greek wines with retsina, a traditional wine flavored with the sap of the Aleppo pine, which tourist manuals over generations have warned people to avoid. (Good retsina, on the other hand, is a beautiful thing.) No, I don't think it's fear so much as unfamiliarity, though admittedly, what separates these feelings can sometimes be a fine distinction. We are keenly aware of the subtle messages conveyed by words and language, and the discomfort that can come when facing something new. Wine is difficult and intimidating enough in any language. Throw in a different alphabet, and it's easy to get overwhelmed. This ought to be expected, and it speaks to the important role restaurants and sommeliers play in familiarizing the public with new and different wines. In my introductory article on Greek reds, I alluded to the scant few opportunities to learn about Greek wines, partly because few restaurants are around to play a significant educational role, just as the rarity of German and Austrian restaurants does not help Americans feel more comfortable with Germanic wines. One wine, grüner veltliner, is an exception to this notion. At the turn of the 21st century, grüner was virtually unknown to Americans, yet it swiftly became a popular restaurant wine. How did that happen? Sommeliers embraced it, transcending national boundaries. American restaurants began serving it by the glass, with bartenders and waiters ready to offer tableside reassurance to the hesitant. I don't expect that to happen with Greek reds. It will be a long haul with many baby steps, including the first one, simply trying the wines because they have so much to offer. As usual, I suggested three bottles to drink over the course of the last month. They were: Domaine Glinavos Ioannina Vlahiko 2018, Argatia Macedonia Haroula 2018 and Kir-Yianni Naoussa Xinomavro Ramnista 2017. If the language seems overly challenging, I would urge



PEPE SERRA/THE NEW YORK TIMES

patience. The beauty of good wine is its ability to transport you to different places and cultures, sometimes commonplace, sometimes entirely new. Cozy and familiar is wonderful, but so is the adventure of the unknown. If people know much about

Greek geography at all, it's the area around Athens and the islands, where white wines predominate. The leading areas for reds are in the less-familiar northern parts of the country like Macedonia, where the Argatia comes from, and Naoussa, a

prime red-wine region within Macedonia, where Kir-Yianni is situated. Xinomavro is the most important red grape in the region. Ioannina in northwest Greece, within the larger Epirus region, is the home of Domaine Glinavos. The wine we tasted was made of vlahiko with a smaller amount of bekari, both local grapes. The Glinavos was bright and energetic, with dark, savory flavors combined with an apple freshness. It was juicy and spicy, not particularly tannic but with a good structure that came from lively acidity. The Argatia Haroula, made largely of xinomavro with small amounts of two lesser-known indigenous grapes blended in, negoska and mavrodafni, was likewise bright and lively, with the flavors of red and dark fruits as well as licorice, a signature flavor of xinomavro. The Kir-Yianni Ramnista was made entirely of xinomavro. It seemed a little more polished than the other two bottles, having been aged in oak barrels, and was more powerful at 14.5% alcohol as against 12% for the Glinavos and 13.5% for the Argatia. It was smooth with fine tannins and deep flavors of licorice, dark fruits and menthol. Many people, like Steven Kolpan of Woodstock, New York, a longtime wine educator, liken xinomavro to nebbiolo. This bottle made the resemblance clear. Readers largely enjoyed these wines, though VSB of San Francisco did not like the Glinavos, which he found thin and sour. But he did find a Troupis agiorgitiko that he liked. Nonetheless, as VSB predicted, other readers raved about the Glinavos. "I really loved this wine," said Martina Mirandola Mullen of New York. "It was light and complex with fine tannins that would make it pair well with fish or meat." Rachel Semmons of Tampa, Florida, enjoyed both the Glinavos and the Argatia Haroula. She said she had tried several Greek wines that were disappointing, which had colored her view and would continue to influence her. "These bottles were encouraging, but lack of availability and a lingering concern about reliability make it more likely that we won't be drinking a ton of Greek wines in the future," she said.

SERIOUSLY SIMPLE

French toast with pecan syrup will please everyone

By Diane Rossen
Worthington
Tribune Content Agency

Did you ever wonder why this particular breakfast dish is called French toast? Necessity is clearly the mother of invention for this dish. In olden times, bread could be difficult to come by, and any leftover was too precious to just throw away. Enter bread soaked in whisked eggs and then fried until brown on both sides and slightly custardy in the center. In France it was named "pain perdu" meaning lost bread. In the U.S., we call it French toast. There are many versions of this dish. You can oven bake it or cut the bread in thick strips, like they do in Spain, and offer it as a dessert. The recipe below is a classic with the syrup enhanced with toasted pecans. Extra thick slices of egg bread create a custardy interior and golden-brown outer layer. Egg bread or challah give the dish a distinctive taste and texture. Vanilla extract and orange round out all the flavors. This family favorite

French toast with berries and toasted pecan maple syrup
Makes: 4 servings
For the syrup:
¼ cup coarsely chopped pecans
1 cup maple syrup
For the French toast:
4 large eggs
1 ½ cups milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon orange zest
1 tablespoon sugar
8 thick (¾-inch) slices egg bread (challah works well)
3 tablespoons unsalted butter
Fresh strawberries and blueberries, for garnish
To make the syrup:



This classic recipe is amped up with a pecan maple syrup.
DREAMSTIME/TNS
is finished with a drizzle of toasted pecan maple syrup and a sprinkling of bright berries. Other breads that work well for French toast include wheat bread, sourdough and French

1. In a medium skillet on medium heat toast the pecans for about 3 minutes or so, or until the pecans are lightly browned and have a toasted aroma.
2. Add the syrup and warm for about 2 more minutes.
3. Transfer into a heat-proof pitcher and reserve. You can reheat in a microwave for a minute just before serving if you like your syrup hot.
For the French toast:
1. In a medium bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk, vanilla, orange zest and sugar until well blended.
2. Arrange the bread slices in one layer in a large rectangular baking dish with 2-inch sides. (You may

bread. I like to serve crispy strips of bacon alongside to complement the sweet flavors of the syrup This is a dish that pleases most everyone, from young kids to seniors. And what could be a better weekend treat? have to do this in batches.) Pour the egg mixture over the bread and turn them to be sure they are coated evenly. Let the bread sit for 5 minutes.
3. In a large frying pan, melt half of the butter over medium heat and when the foam has just subsided, add the bread slices in one layer (cook in batches if necessary). Cook the bread until its golden brown, about 2 to 4 minutes, then turn and cook the other side until golden, about 2 more minutes. Repeat with the remaining butter and bread.
4. Serve on plates, drizzled with pecan maple syrup and fresh berries.



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Cardamom buns from Jenny Lind Bakery are tender but chewy, slightly sweet and ringing with a bracing burst of cardamom. RICK NELSON/MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE

A Swedish treat worth mastering

Cardamom buns are a core component of fika, the practice of a coffee-and-snack break

By Rick Nelson
Star Tribune

MINNEAPOLIS — Ruth Raich has happy memories of childhood visits to Sweden, helping her grandmother make kardemummabullar.

What the English-speaking world calls the cardamom bun is a core component of fika, the civilized Swedish practice of a coffee-and-snack break.

What a treat! Cardamom buns are tender but chewy, slightly sweet and ringing with a bracing burst of cardamom. Just looking at these sculpted beauties, their tops glistening with sugar, instantly invokes temptation.

Starting in the late 1980s, Raich’s take on the classic kardemummabullar became a trademark item at each incarnation of her popular baking-centric businesses.

Although her Jenny Lind Cafe in Stockholm, Wisconsin, and Smokey Row Cafe in Red Wing, Minnesota, are in Raich’s past, she continues — thankfully — to produce cardamom rolls, baking batches of them several days a week in the cozy Jenny Lind wholesale bakery that she built inside a converted chicken coop on the farm near Maiden Rock, Wisconsin, that she shares with her wife.

My husband first encountered Raich’s cardamom rolls in the 1990s and has craved them ever since. (Call them “rolls” or “buns,” the meaning is the same; Raich invokes the former.) He introduced me to their splendors more than 20 years ago, and I’ve been similarly hooked.

Several months ago, I stumbled upon a copy of “Favorite Recipes of the Jenny Lind Bakery & Cafe,” Raich’s 2014 cookbook, and was delighted to discover that it included a recipe for her signature rolls.

My first attempts — tough, bland, ungainly, sometimes all three — were pallid imitations of Raich’s handiwork. What was I doing wrong? My late grandmother Hedvig, the daughter of Swedish farmers, could perform magic with flour and yeast, so you’d think that baking



Twisting the spiraled dough into shapely buns is an art. NATASHA BREEN/REDA&CO/UNIVERSAL IMAGES GROUP

DNA might intervene. Nope.

I called Raich and invited myself to her workplace for a tutorial. Observing this baker in her native habitat was a study in economy of movement. Years of routine means that Raich can seamlessly and simultaneously turn out scones, cookies and three variations of fist-sized sweet rolls: almond, cinnamon and cardamom, all while coaching an amateur on the ins and outs of handling an egg-rich yeasted dough.

After that invaluable lesson, my next few batches — while not identical to Raich’s expert output — were reasonable facsimiles. My kneading abilities are hardly intuitive, and I don’t have her practiced panache when it comes to twisting the dough into beautifully layered buns. But I’m determined to get there.

Thanks to Raich’s skill and generosity, my 2022 New Year’s resolution is to bake more cardamom buns. You should, too. The recipe may appear daunting, but once you get the hang of it, it’s easy — honest — and the effort is so worth it.

Tips from the expert

Troubleshooting: “When it comes to making cardamom rolls, people usually encounter three problems,” Raich said. “They didn’t knead long enough, so there’s not enough protein structure that allows the dough to rise. Or they added too much flour. Or

the liquid was too hot and it killed the yeast.”

Kneading, part 1: “When people are kneading by hand, they get tired,” she said. “It’s always going to be more than you think, especially for beginner bakers, and so I always tell people that when you want to stop, keep going for 2 to 5 more minutes.”

Kneading, part 2: Still, Raich advises using a stand mixer fitted with a bread hook. “It keeps you from adding too much flour,” she said.

At her bakery, in the mammoth 30-quart Hobart mixer she calls “Francine,” Raich kneads the dough on medium speed for 3 minutes. “But home mixers have less powerful motors, so they should knead longer,” she said, which explains the recipe’s extended knead time. When it’s ready, the dough should feel smooth but stick slightly to the bottom of the bowl.

Warming up: For the first proof, consider placing the covered bowl in an unheated gas-powered oven. “The oven’s pilot light will keep it warm enough,” she said. For the second proof, place the baking sheets near a radiator, or on tables or counters that are bathed in sunlight.

Air dry: If the dough feels too wet and sticky after the first proof, Raich scrapes it onto a lightly floured work surface and lets the dough sit in the open air,

untouched, for about 15 to 20 minutes, then rolls it out.

Working by hand: When spreading butter across the rolled dough, Raich uses her hands rather than a spatula. Also, avoid melted butter. “It’s easier to keep it on the dough if the butter is soft — at room temperature — rather than if it’s melted,” she said.

Flavor booster: Raich grinds whole cardamom seeds, and there’s one big reason: The flavor is more robust than using packaged ground cardamom. And there’s one caveat: “Cardamom seeds are hard on grinders,” she said. A mortar and pestle also work.

Touch test: For those without an instant-read thermometer, rely upon your senses. “The liquid should be ‘baby bottle’ warm,” she said. “It’s body temperature.”

Egg wash: Don’t skip this step. “It keeps the roll from getting dry, and it gives them color,” she said. Use milk, and the results will be a soft, brown roll. Use water, and the top will be crispy but not brown. Use an egg wash, and the roll will be brown and delicately crispy on top.

Twist tutorial: Raich has a helpful YouTube video where she demonstrates her technique for twisting spiraled dough into shapely buns, and it’s worth watching. Find it at [youtube.com/watch?v=RCNht2N_47Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCNht2N_47Q).

Cardamom buns

- Makes:** 1 dozen buns
Note: This dough must be prepared in advance.
For the dough:
6 tablespoons (¾ stick) unsalted butter, melted and cooled, plus more (at room temperature) for greasing bowl
1 ¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons whole milk
3 eggs, lightly beaten
¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar
1 tablespoon instant dry yeast
1 ½ teaspoons salt
5 cups flour, plus more for rolling dough
For the filling:
¾ cup sugar
2 tablespoons ground cinnamon
2 tablespoons ground cardamom
4 tablespoons (½ stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature
For the topping:
1 egg
1 tablespoon water
Sanding sugar or pearl sugar
1. To prepare dough: Grease a large bowl with room-temperature butter and set aside.
2. In a microwave-safe bowl, combine the cooled melted butter, milk and 3 beaten eggs, and heat in microwave oven, in 30-second increments, until mixture reaches 100 degrees on an instant-read thermometer (do not exceed 100 degrees).
3. Pour mixture into the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a bread hook. Add ¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar, yeast and salt, and mix on medium speed until combined. Reduce speed to low, add 4 ¾ cups flour and mix until flour is incorporated into the liquid and dough comes together, about 2 minutes. Increase speed to medium and mix until dough is glossy and elastic and forms a ball but still sticks slightly to the bottom of the bowl (add flour as necessary, 1 tablespoon at a time, up to the remaining ¼ cup; be careful not to add too much flour), about 5 to 6 minutes.
4. (Alternately, in a large bowl, combine butter-milk mixture with ¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar, yeast and salt, and stir to combine. Add 4 ¾ cups flour and stir, vigorously, until thoroughly combined. Lightly flour a clean working surface. Scrape dough onto prepared work surface. Using lightly floured hands, knead into an elastic, smooth dough — not too dry, with good elasticity — about 10 to 12 minutes. If dough is too sticky, lightly add flour as needed, 1 tablespoon at a time, up to the remaining ¼ cup; be careful not to add too much flour.)
5. Scrape dough into prepared bowl, cover with a cotton dishcloth, place in a warm area (about 80 degrees) and let rise until almost doubled, about 60 minutes.
6. To prepare filling: In a small bowl, combine ¾ cup sugar, cinnamon and cardamom. Line baking sheets with parchment paper.
7. Lightly flour a clean working surface. Using a spatula or scraper, transfer dough to prepared work surface. Using a lightly floured rolling pin, roll the dough — in short, quick, even strokes — into a 20- by 24-inch rectangle that is roughly ¼- to ½-inch thick. Be sure to keep lightly adding flour as needed to the work surface, to prevent the dough from sticking.
8. Spread the surface of the dough with 4 tablespoons room-temperature butter, working right up to the edges. Sprinkle cardamom-cinnamon mixture evenly over the butter, sprinkling right up to the edges. Starting on the 20-inch side of the rectangle, roll dough snugly into a log, leaving the log seam-side-down on the work surface.
9. Using a sharp knife, trim uneven ends, then cut the log crosswise into 12 buns measuring about 1 ½ inches wide. Pick up each bun, with one thumb gripping the top of the dough and the other one gripping the bottom. Gently make two whole twists, with your hands going in opposite directions, pulling lightly on the dough as you twist. After turning the bun in your hands, tuck one end of the bun under the other end, forming a ball. Place twisted buns 2 inches apart on prepared baking sheets.
10. Loosely cover the buns with a cotton dishcloth, place in a warm area (about 80 degrees) and let the buns rise until they’re puffy, about 30 to 45 minutes.
11. To prepare topping: When ready to bake, preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a small bowl, whisk 1 egg with 1 tablespoon water. Brush the buns with egg wash, then sprinkle with sanding sugar or pearl sugar. Bake until golden (but not too dark, or buns will be dry), about 18 to 20 minutes, rotating baking sheets halfway through baking time. Remove from oven. Serve warm or at room temperature.
12. To prepare ahead: Once the dough has been twisted into buns, the unbaked buns can be covered in plastic wrap and refrigerated, overnight. When ready to bake, place buns 2 inches apart on parchment paper-lined baking sheets. Loosely cover with a cotton dish cloth, place in a warm area (about 80 degrees) and let buns rise until puffy, about 60 to 75 minutes. Brush with egg wash, garnish with decorative sugar and bake as instructed.
— Adapted from “Favorite Recipes of the Jenny Lind Bakery & Cafe” by Ruth Raich